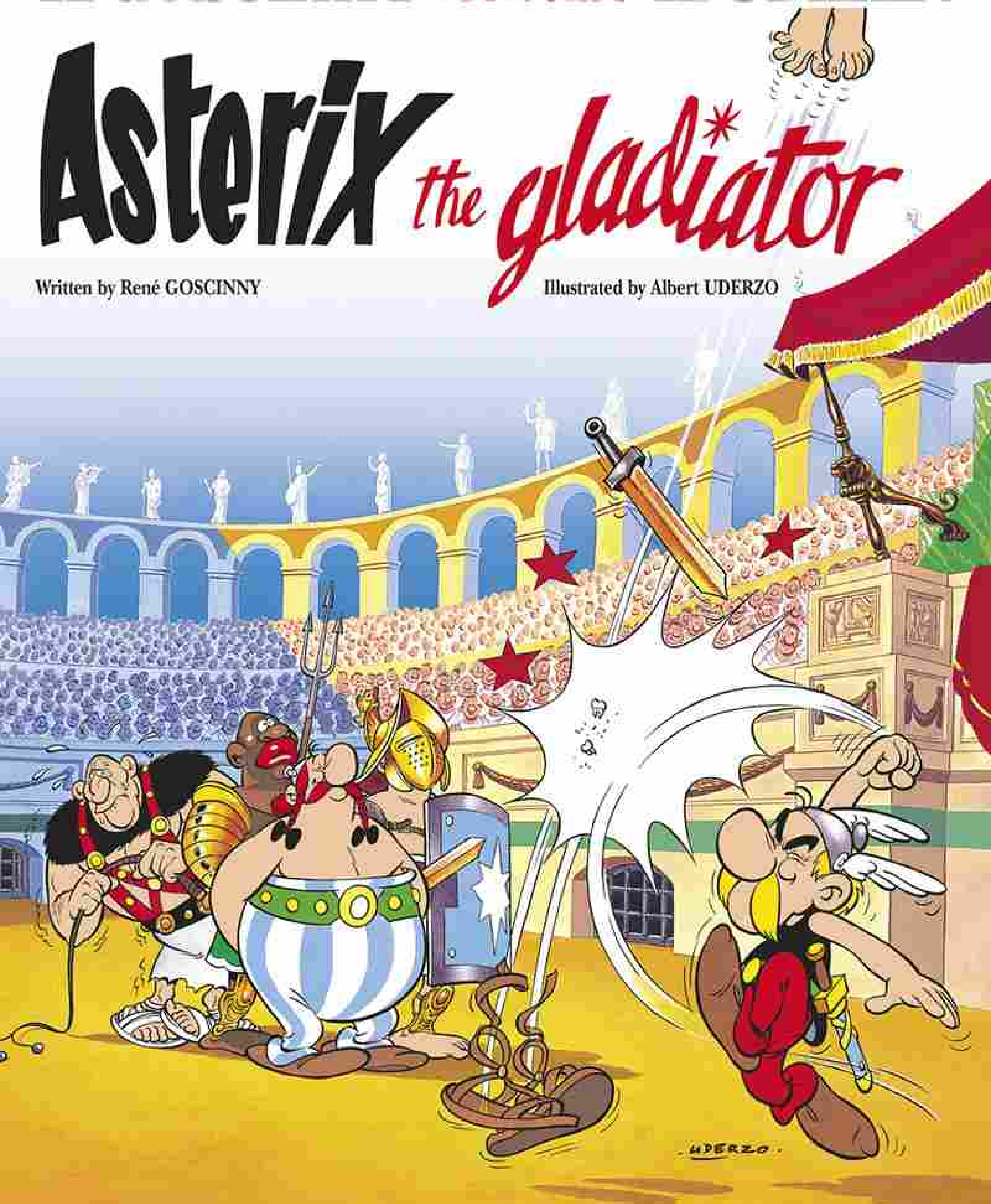


R. GOSCINNY **Asterix** A. UDERZO

Asterix *the gladiator*

Written by René GOSCINNY

Illustrated by Albert UDERZO



GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

PRESENT

An Asterix Adventure

ASTERIX THE GLADIATOR

Written by RENÉ GOSCINNY *and Illustrated by* ALBERT UDERZO

Translated by Anthea Bell *and* Derek Hockridge



Asterix titles available now

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 Asterix the Gaul | 19 Asterix and the Soothsayer | Where's Asterix? |
| 2 Asterix and the Golden Sickle | 20 Asterix in Corsica | Where's Dogmatix? |
| 3 Asterix and the Goths | 21 Asterix and Caesar's Gift | Asterix and the Vikings |
| 4 Asterix the Gladiator | 22 Asterix and the Great Crossing | Asterix at the Olympic Games (film tie-in) |
| 5 Asterix and the Banquet | 23 Obelix and Co. | Asterix Omnibus 1 (Books 1-3) |
| 6 Asterix and Cleopatra | 24 Asterix in Belgium | Asterix Omnibus 2 (Books 4-6) |
| 7 Asterix and the Big Fight | 25 Asterix and the Great Divide | Asterix Omnibus 3 (Books 7-9) |
| 8 Asterix in Britain | 26 Asterix and the Black Gold | Asterix Omnibus 4 (Books 10-12) |
| 9 Asterix and the Normans | 27 Asterix and Son | Asterix Omnibus 5 (Books 13-15) |
| 10 Asterix the Legionary | 28 Asterix and the Magic Carpet | Asterix Omnibus 6 (Books 16-18) |
| 11 Asterix and the Chieftain's Shield | 29 Asterix and the Secret Weapon | Asterix Omnibus 7 (Books 19-21) |
| 12 Asterix at the Olympic Games | 30 Asterix and Obelix All at Sea | Asterix Omnibus 8 (Books 22-24) |
| 13 Asterix and the Cauldron | 31 Asterix and the Actress | Asterix Omnibus 9 (Books 25-27) |
| 14 Asterix in Spain | 32 Asterix and the Class Act | Asterix Omnibus 10 (Books 28-30) |
| 15 Asterix and the Roman Agent | 33 Asterix and the Falling Sky | Asterix Omnibus 11 (Books 31-33) |
| 16 Asterix in Switzerland | 34 Asterix and Obelix's Birthday –
the Golden Book | How Obelix Fell into the Magic Potion |
| 17 The Mansions of the Gods | | |
| 18 Asterix and the Laurel Wreath | 35 Asterix and the Picts | |

AN ORION CHILDREN'S EBOOK

© 1964 GOSCINNY/UDERZO

Revised edition and English translation © 2004 Hachette Livre

Original title: *Astérix Gladiateur*

This eBook first published in 2014 by Orion Children's Books.

Exclusive licensee: Orion Publishing Group

Translators: Anthea Bell and Derek Hockridge

Typography: Bryony Newhouse

All rights reserved

The right of René Goscinny and Albert Uderzo to be identified as the authors of this work has been asserted by them in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

This revised edition first published in 2004 by Orion Books Ltd,

Orion House, 5 Upper Saint Martin's Lane, London WC2H 9EA

An Hachette UK company

This ebook edition has been created using CircularFLO from Circular Software

A CIP record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN 978 1 4440 1311 5

www.asterix.com

www.orionbooks.co.uk



THE YEAR IS 50 BC. GAUL IS ENTIRELY OCCUPIED BY THE ROMANS. WELL, NOT ENTIRELY ... ONE SMALL VILLAGE OF INDOMITABLE GAULS STILL HOLDS OUT AGAINST THE INVADERS. AND LIFE IS NOT EASY FOR THE ROMAN LEGIONARIES WHO GARRISON THE FORTIFIED CAMPS OF TOTORUM, AQUARIUM, LAUDANUM AND COMPENDIUM ...



ASTERIX, THE HERO OF THESE ADVENTURES. A SHREWD, CUNNING LITTLE WARRIOR, ALL PERILOUS MISSIONS ARE IMMEDIATELY ENTRUSTED TO HIM. ASTERIX GETS HIS SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH FROM THE MAGIC POTION BREWED BY THE DRUID GETAFIX . . .



OBELIX, ASTERIX'S INSEPARABLE FRIEND. A MENHIR DELIVERY MAN BY TRADE, ADDICTED TO WILD BOAR. OBELIX IS ALWAYS READY TO DROP EVERYTHING AND GO OFF ON A NEW ADVENTURE WITH ASTERIX - SO LONG AS THERE'S WILD BOAR TO EAT, AND PLENTY OF FIGHTING. HIS CONSTANT COMPANION IS DOGMATIX, THE ONLY KNOWN CANINE ECOLOGIST, WHO HOWLS WITH DESPAIR WHEN A TREE IS CUT DOWN.



GETAFIX, THE VENERABLE VILLAGE DRUID, GATHERS MISTLETOE AND BREWS MAGIC POTIONS. HIS SPECIALITY IS THE POTION WHICH GIVES THE DRINKER SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH. BUT GETAFIX ALSO HAS OTHER RECIPES UP HIS SLEEVE . . .

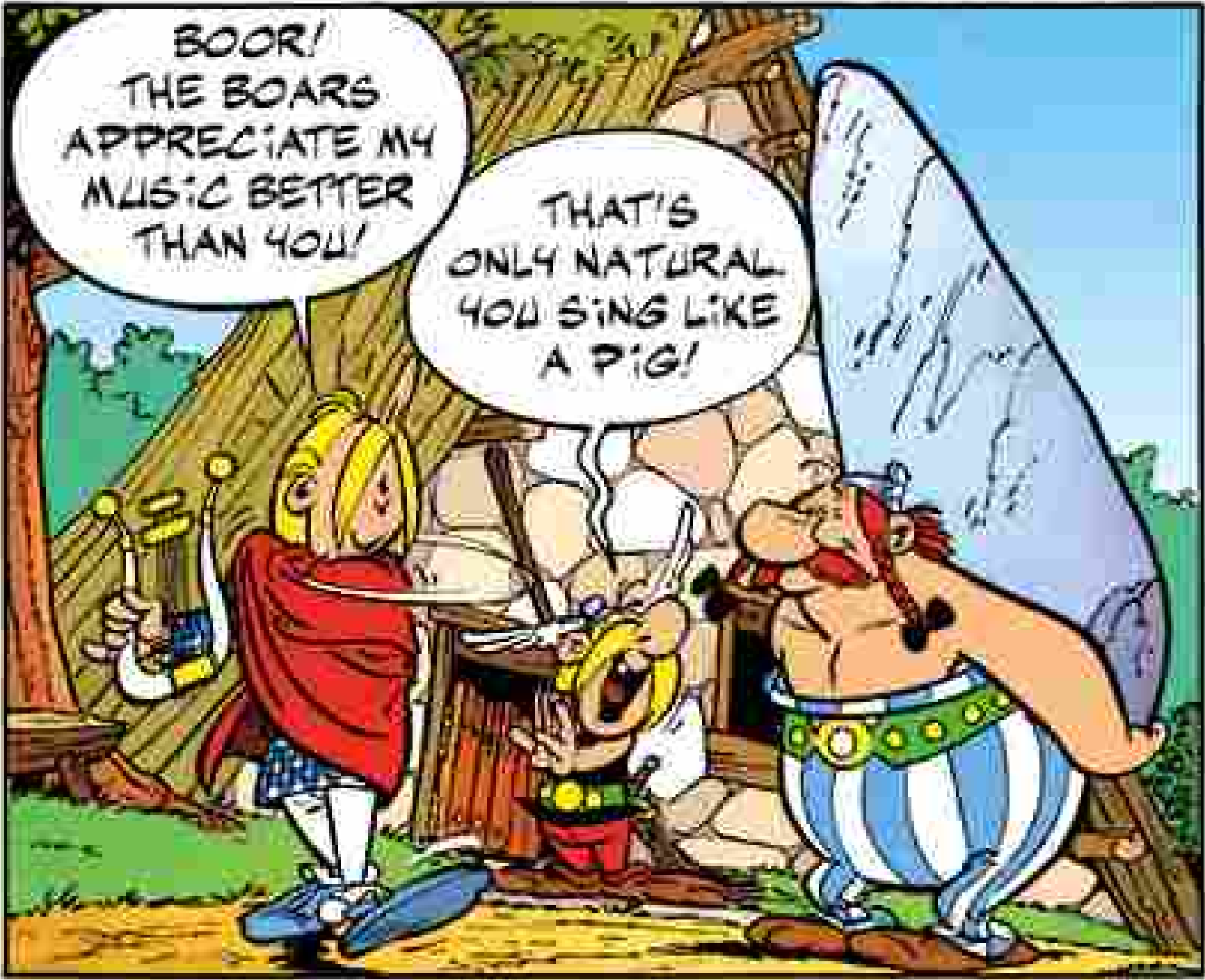
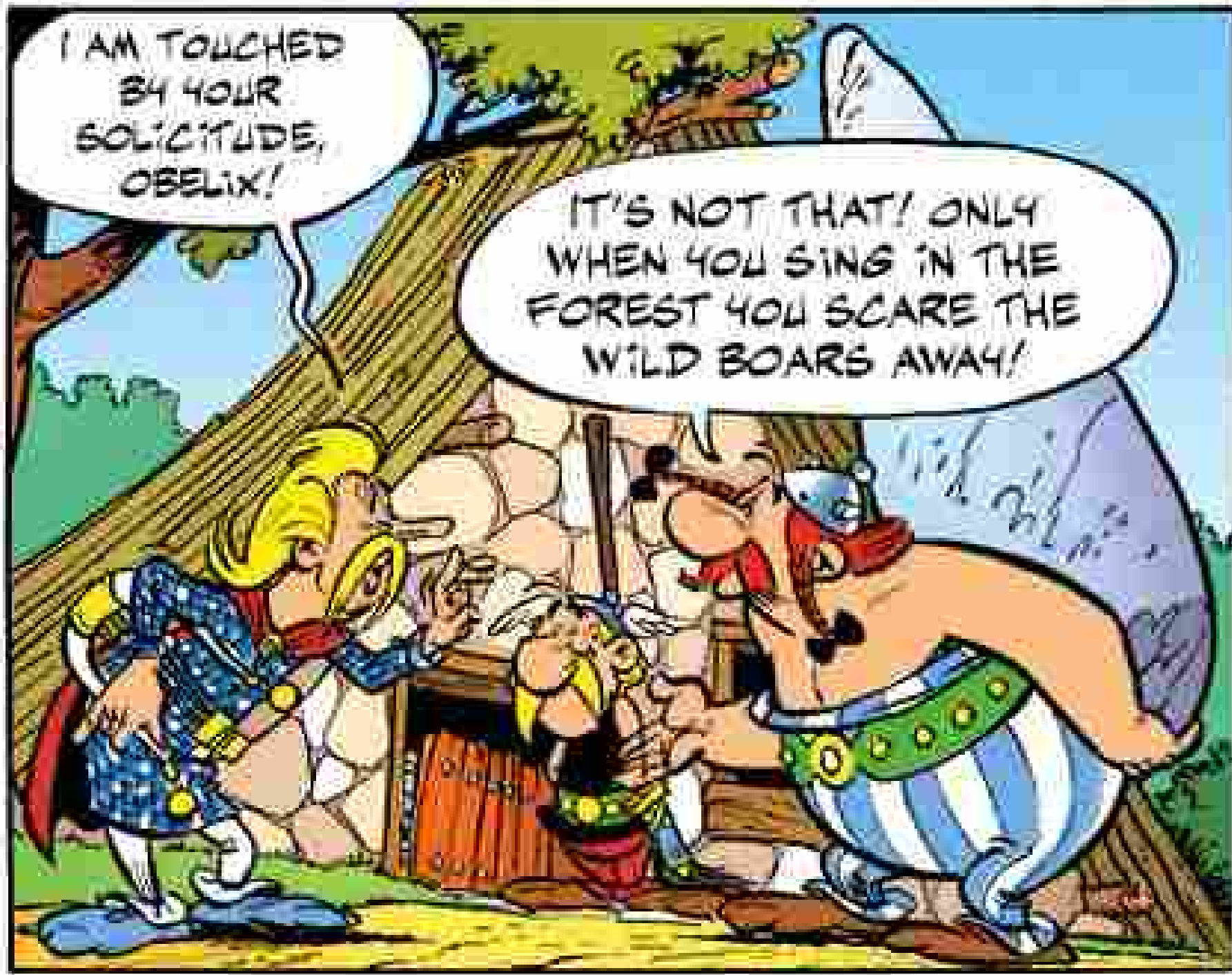


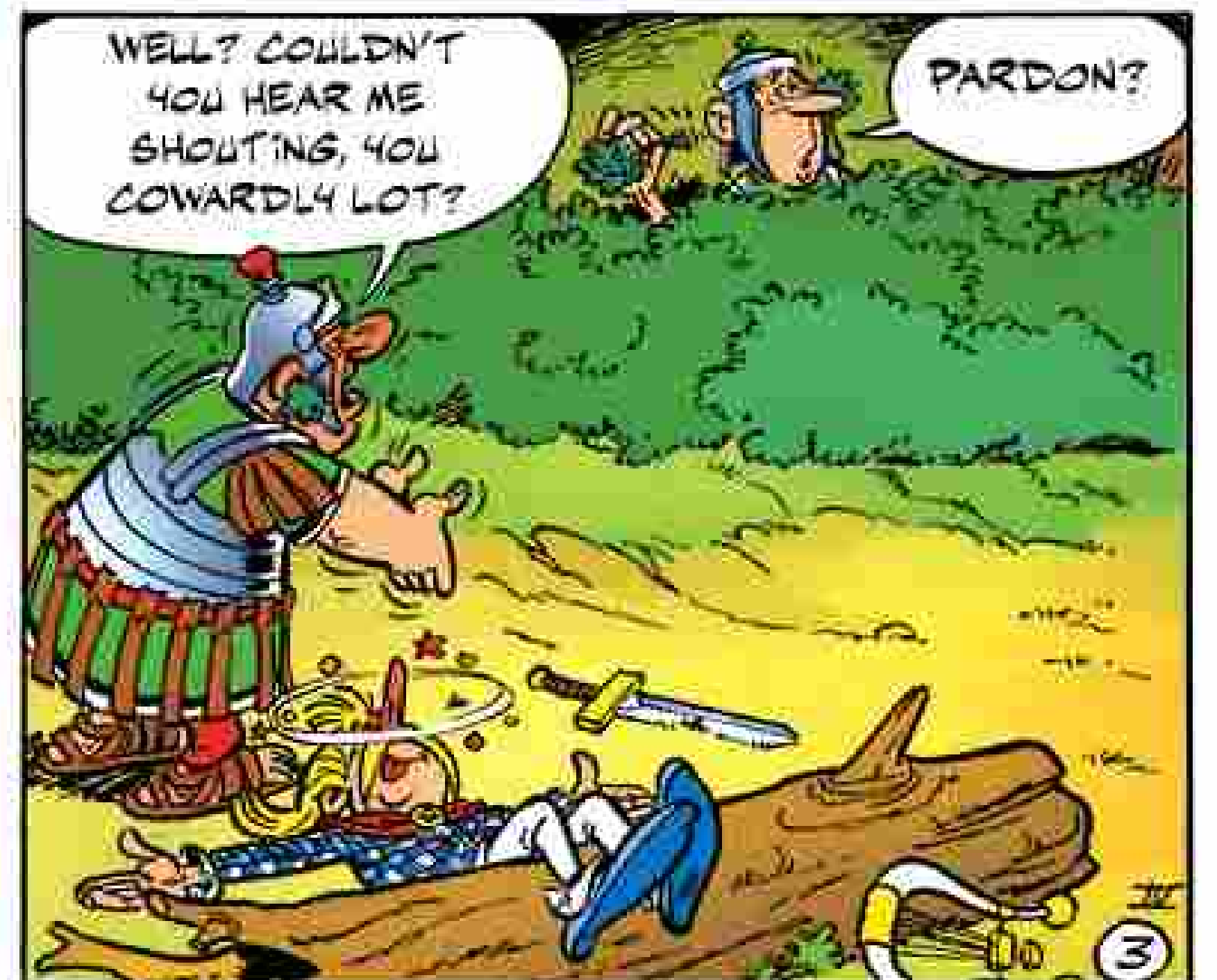
CACOPONIX, THE BARD. OPINION IS DIVIDED AS TO HIS MUSICAL GIFTS. CACOPONIX THINKS HE'S A GENIUS. EVERYONE ELSE THINKS HE'S UNSPEAKABLE. BUT SO LONG AS HE DOESN'T SPEAK, LET ALONE SING, EVERYBODY LIKES HIM . . .



FINALLY, VITALSTATISTIX, THE CHIEF OF THE TRIBE. MAJESTIC, BRAVE AND HOT-TEMPERED, THE OLD WARRIOR IS RESPECTED BY HIS MEN AND FEARED BY HIS ENEMIES. VITALSTATISTIX HIMSELF HAS ONLY ONE FEAR, HE IS AFRAID THE SKY MAY FALL ON HIS HEAD TOMORROW. BUT AS HE ALWAYS SAYS, TOMORROW NEVER COMES.

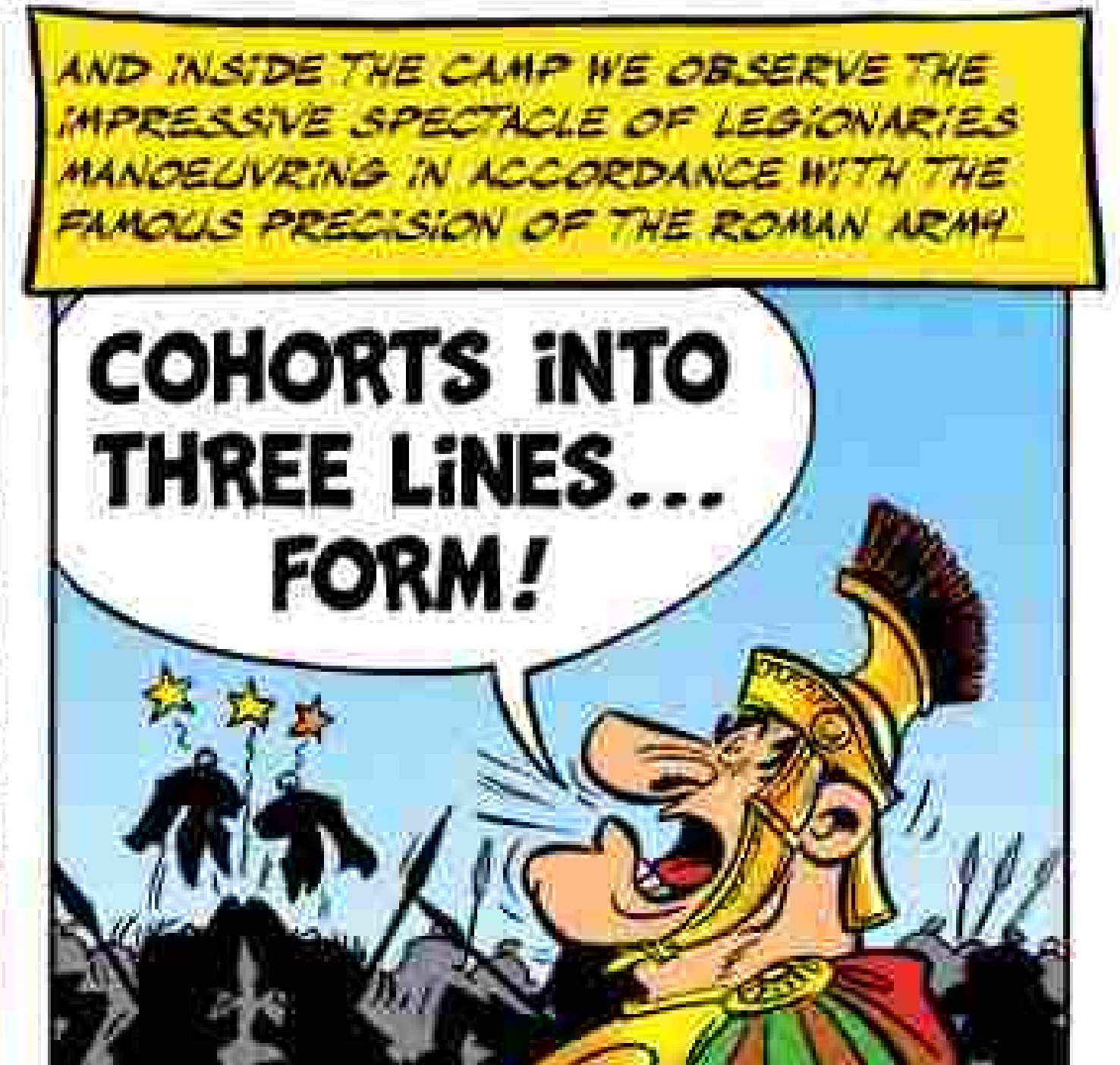








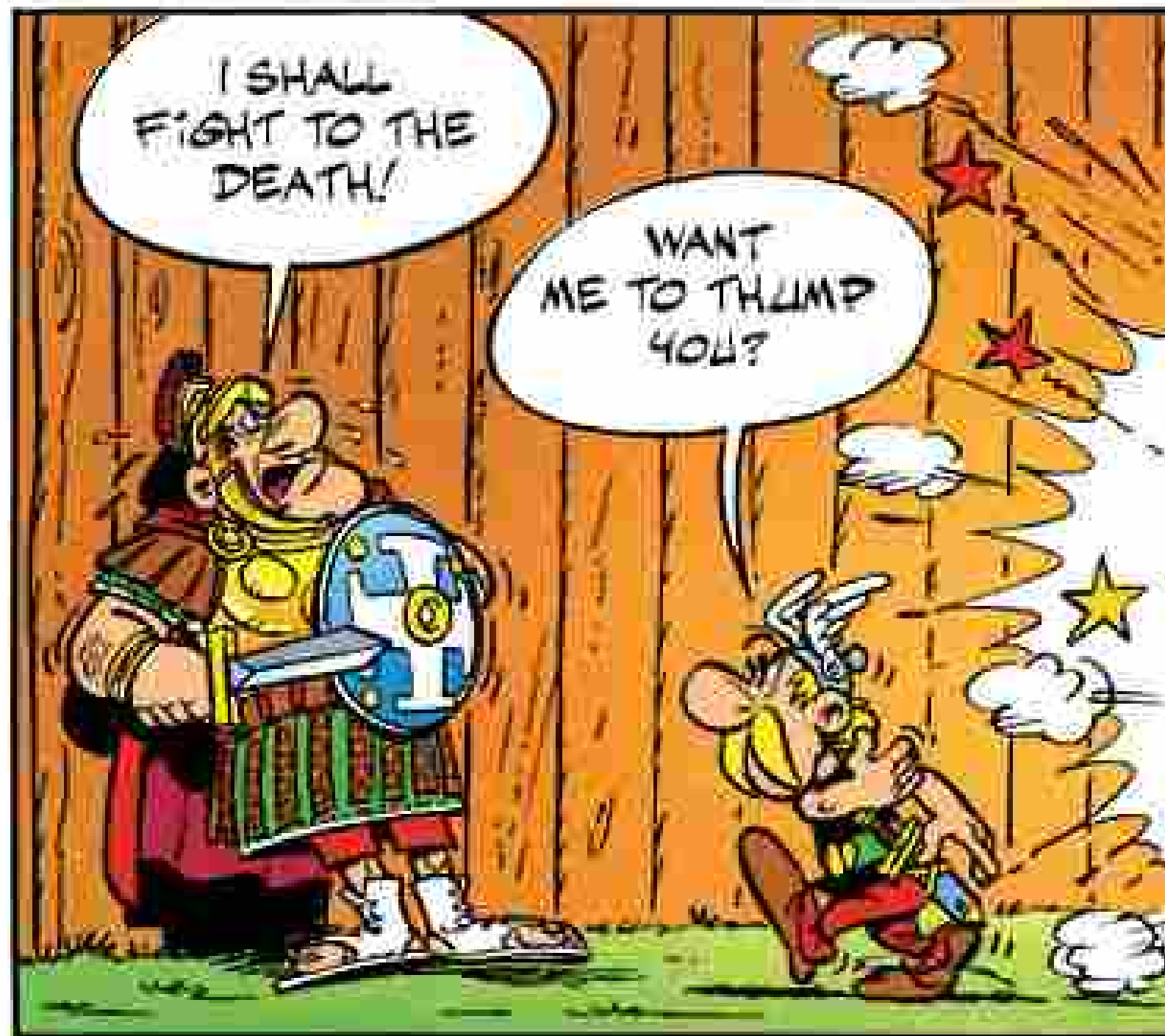




THE BATTLE IS SHORT...

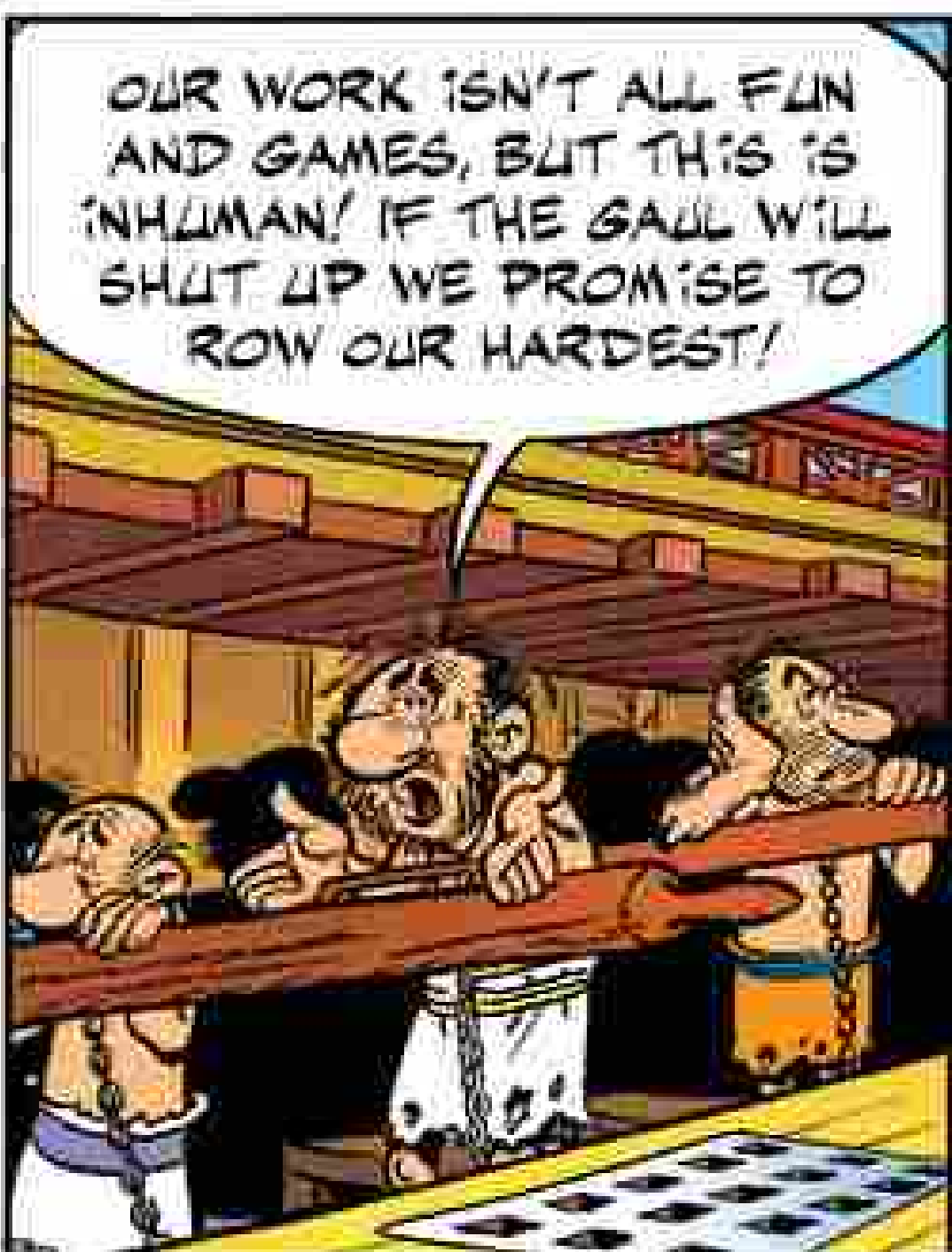
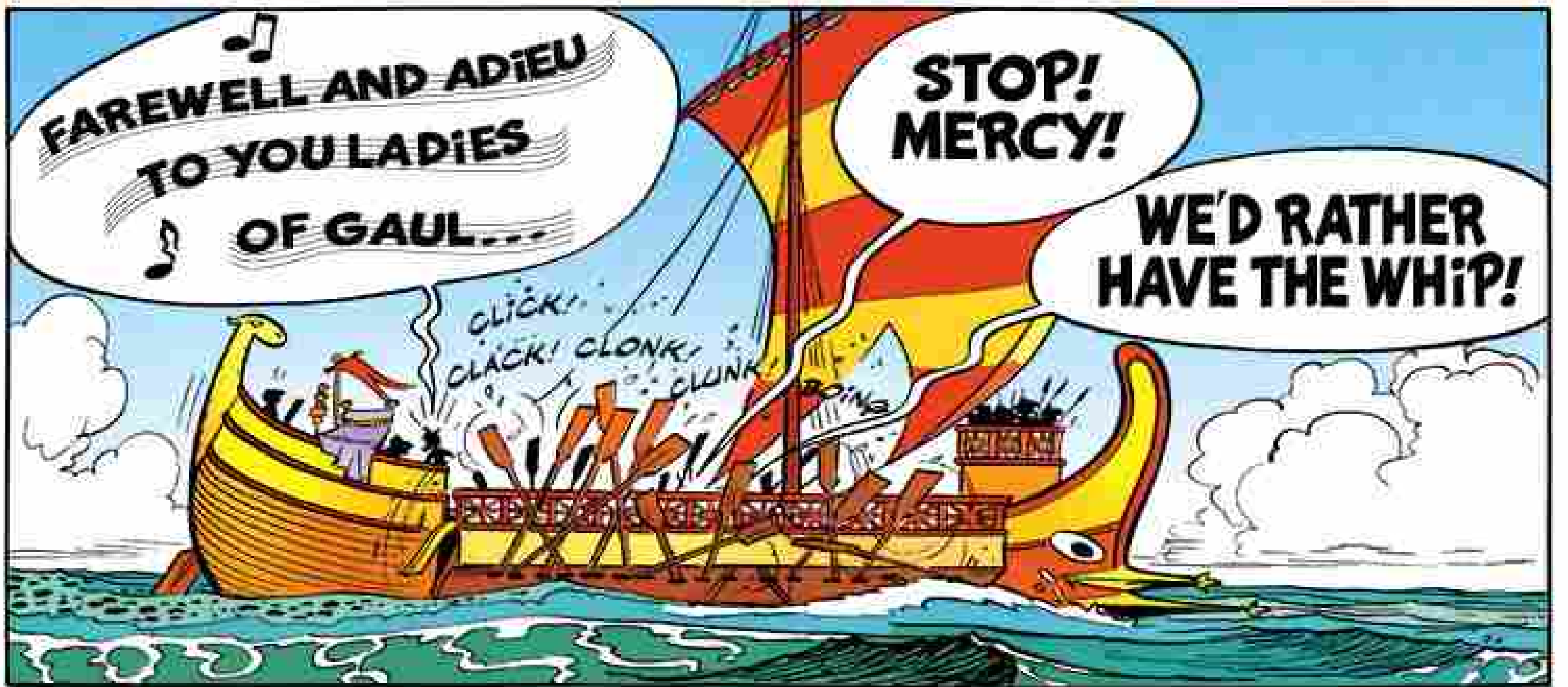
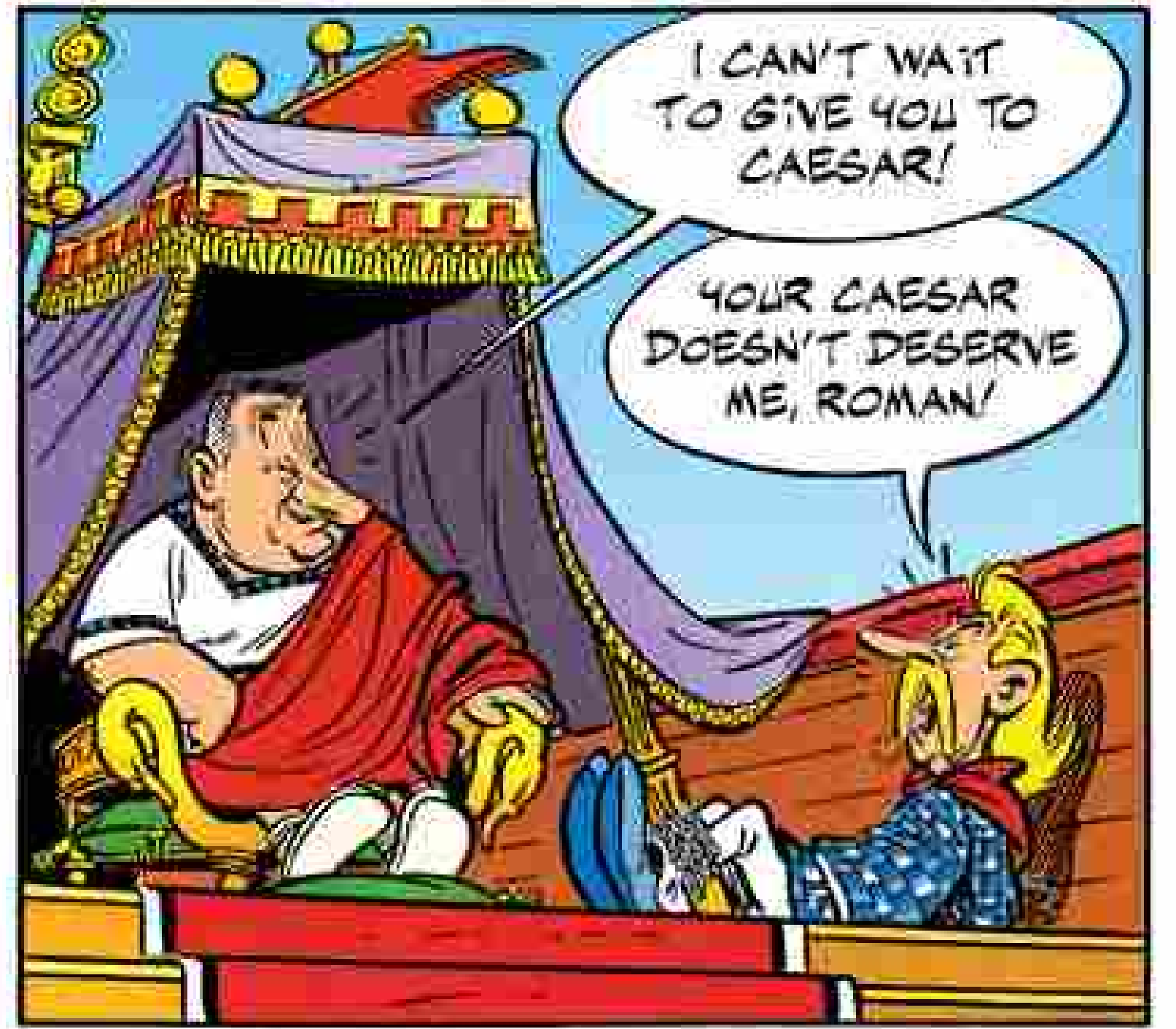
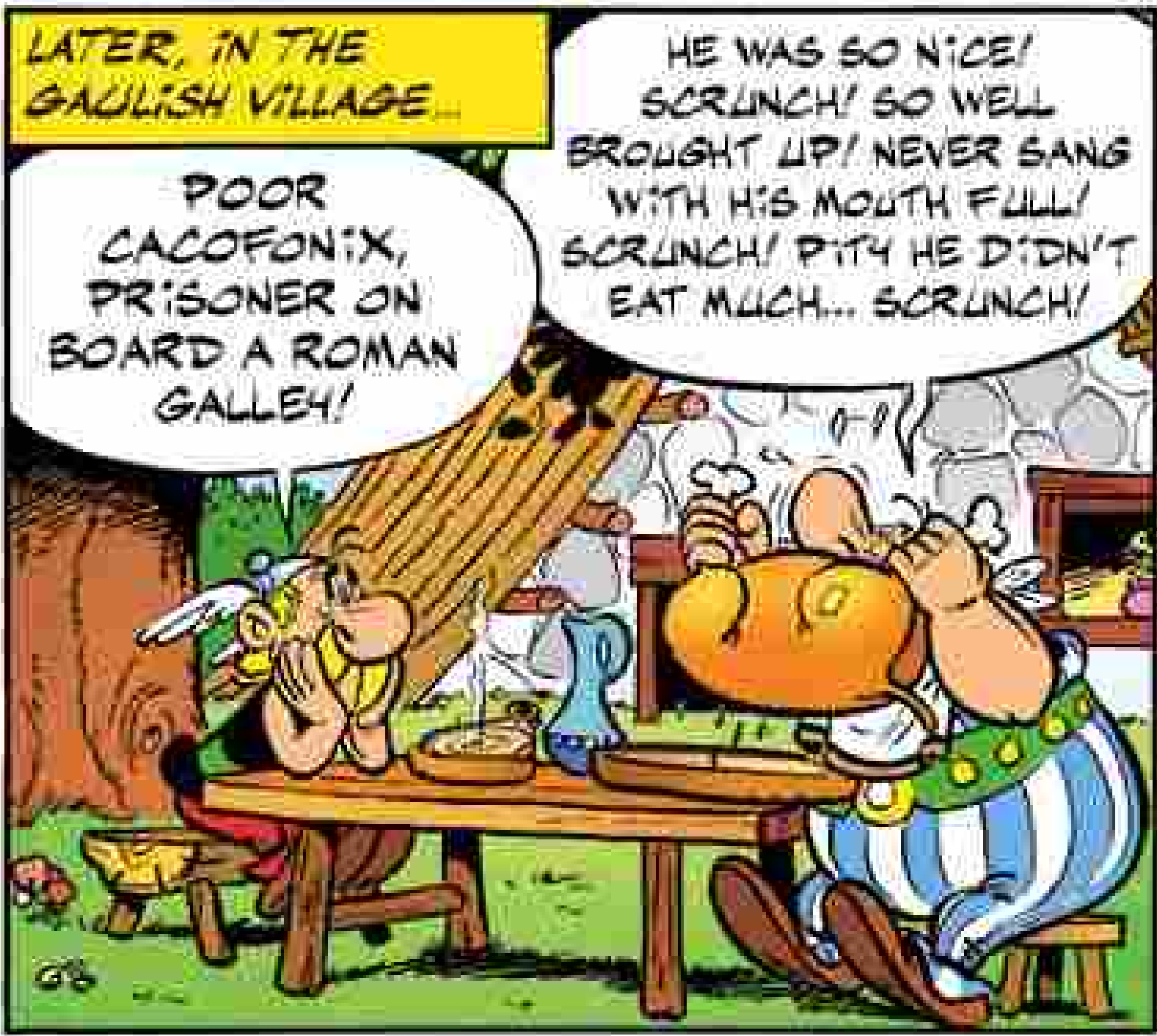


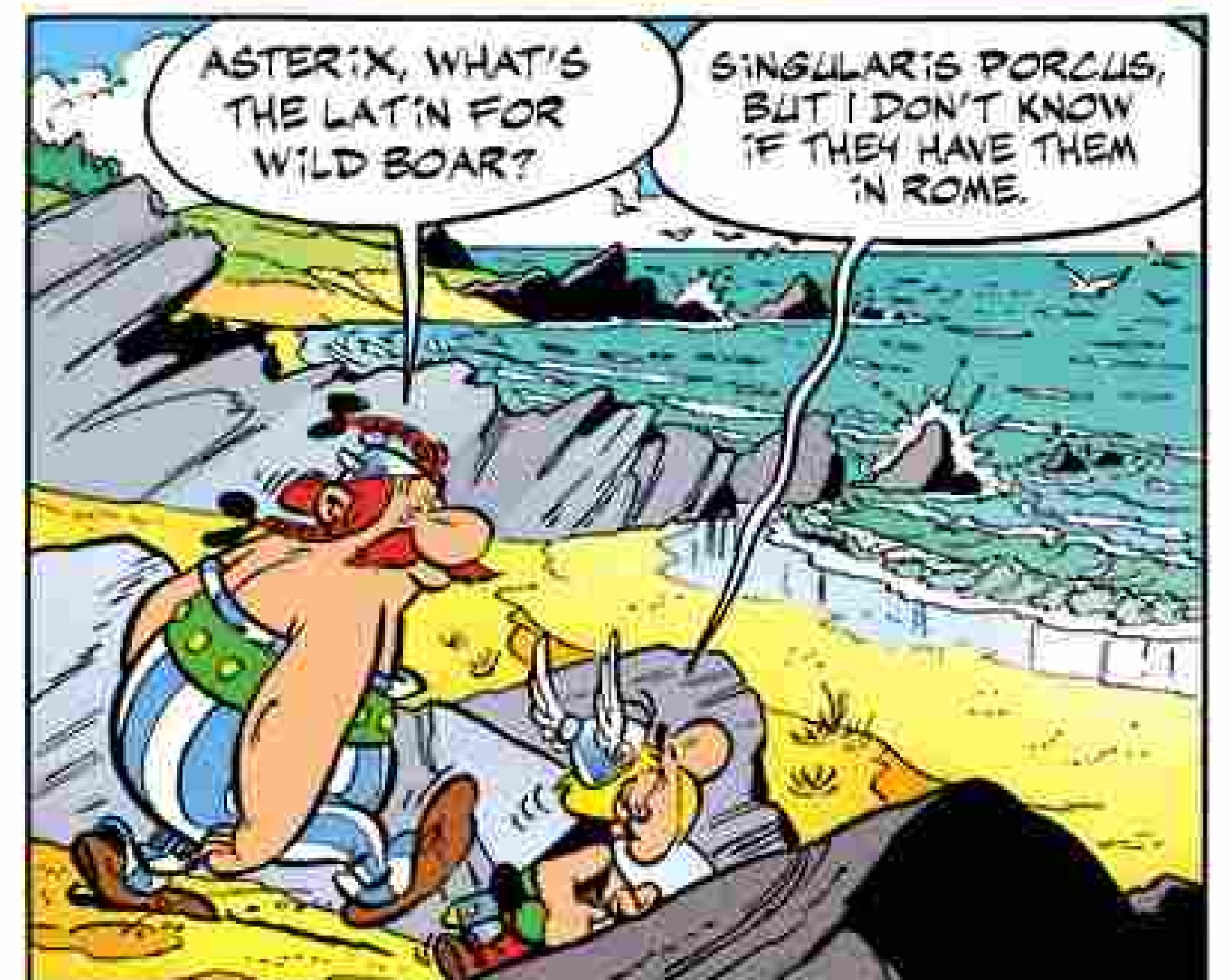
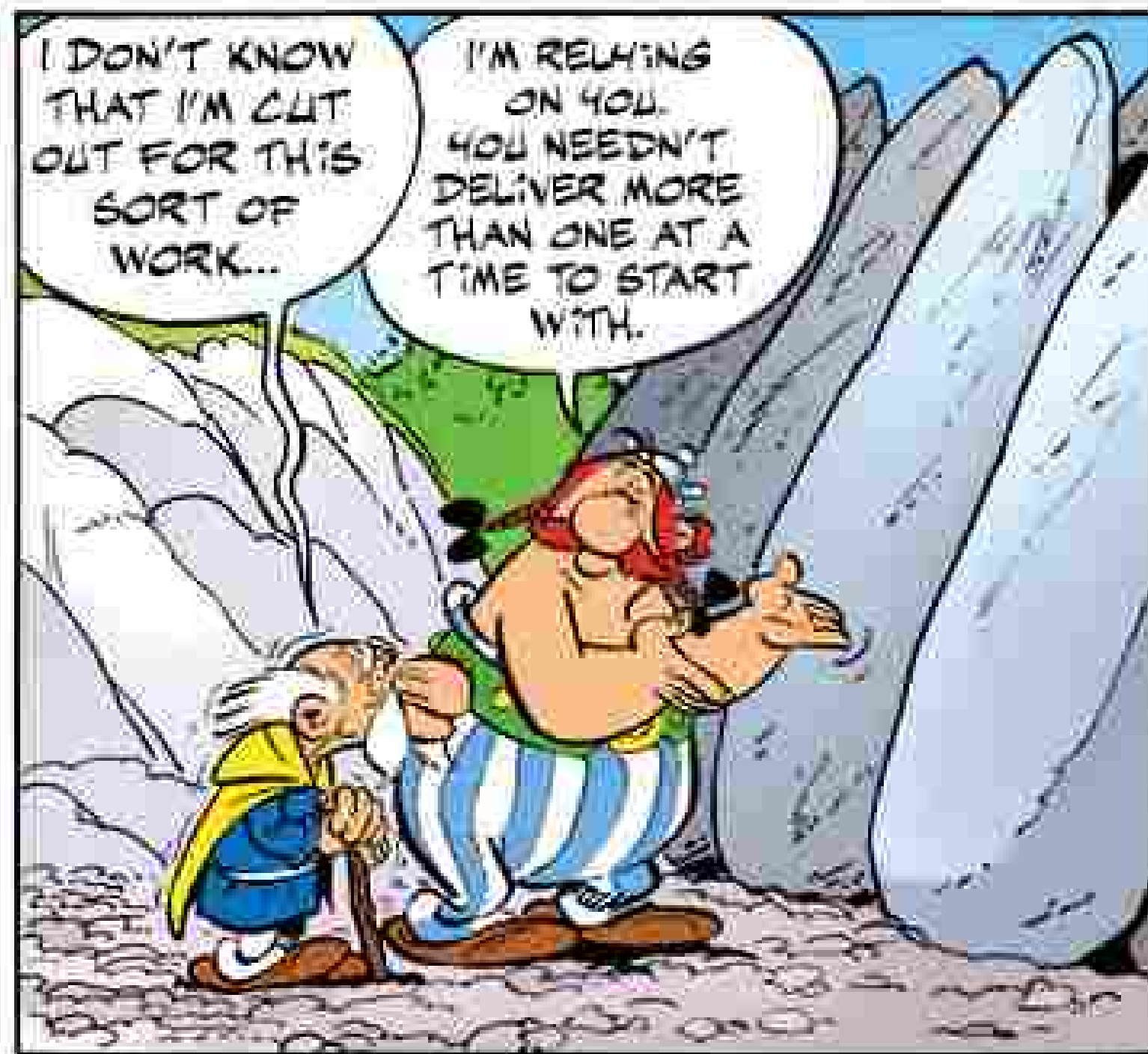
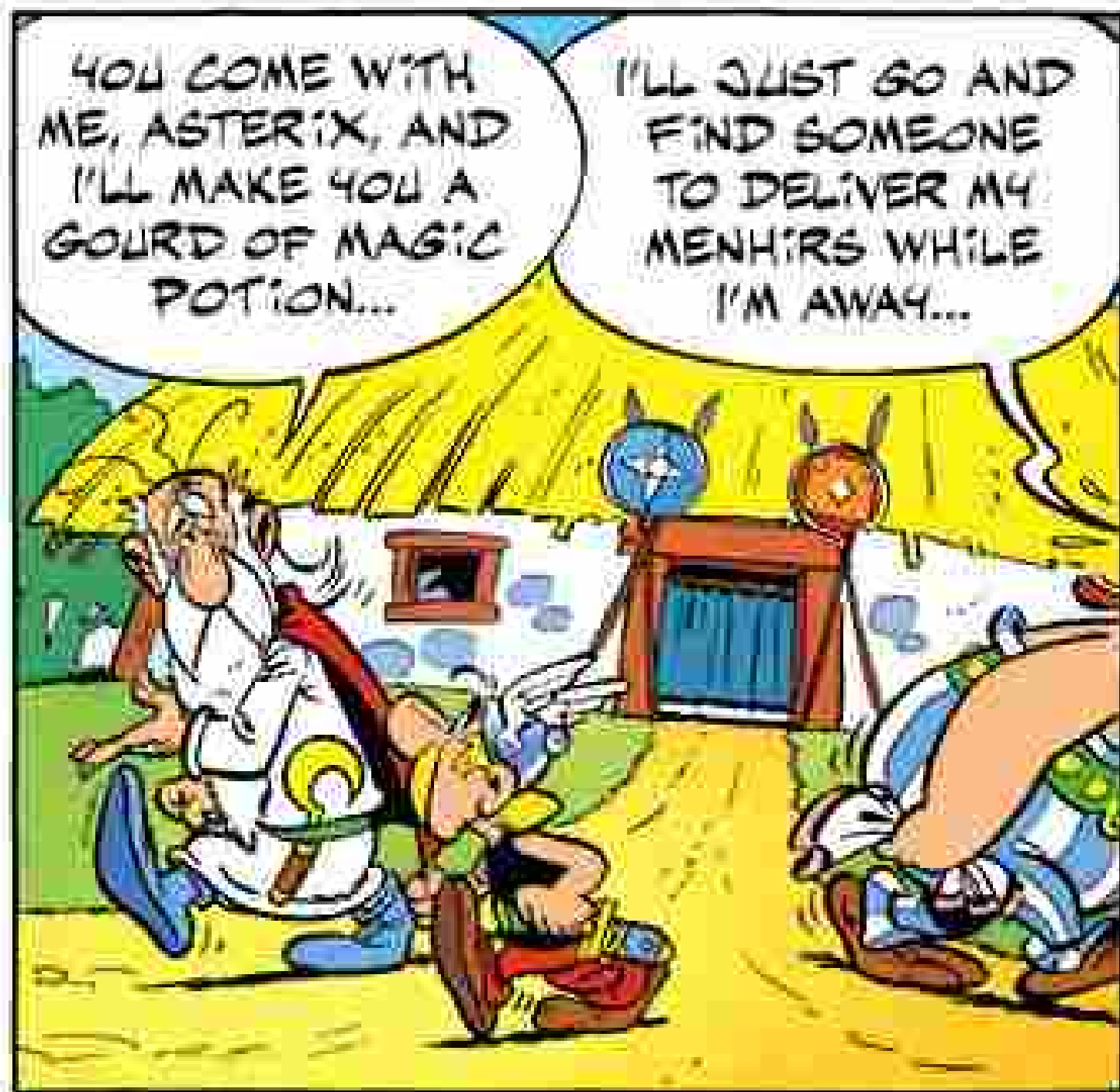
BUT SHARP...



THE GAULS WITHDRAW, LEAVING BEHIND THEM THE AFTERMATH OF BATTLE







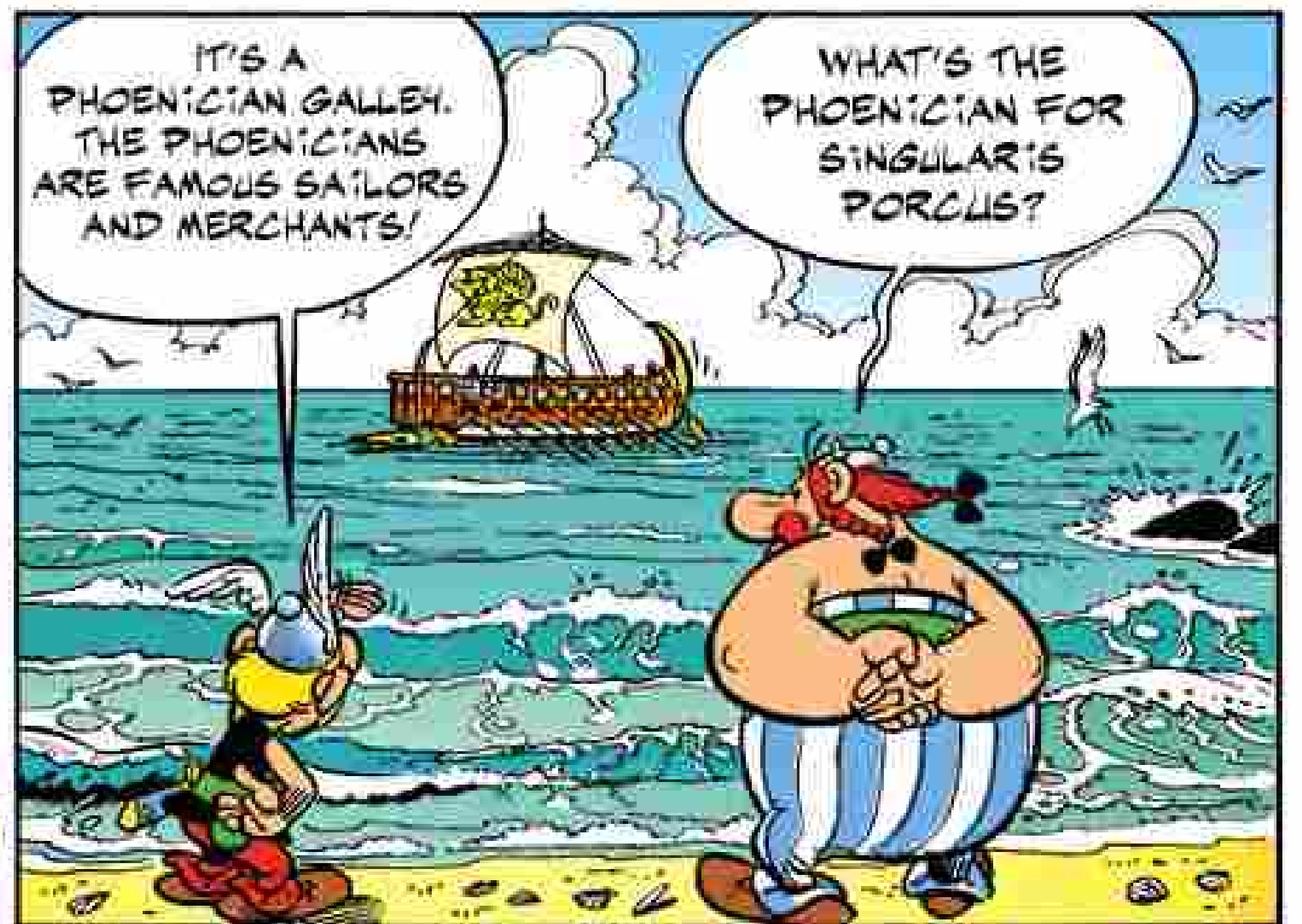


NOW TO STOP THIS SHIP SAILING ALONG THE COAST!

ASTERIX AND OBELIX MAKE THE ANCIENT GALILISH SIGN INDICATING A WISH TO BE TAKEN ON BOARD. NOTE THE FOUR CLENCHED FINGERS AND THE THUMB JERKED IN THE DESIRED DIRECTION. IF YOU WISH TO GO TO ROME, THE DIRECTION OF THE THUMB IS IMMATERIAL, SINCE ALL ROADS LEAD THERE.



N.B. THIS GESTURE IS STILL EMPLOYED TODAY, THOUGH NOT OFTEN TO STOP SHIPS.



IT'S A PHOENICIAN GALLEY. THE PHOENICIANS ARE FAMOUS SAILORS AND MERCHANTS!

WHAT'S THE PHOENICIAN FOR SINGULAR'S PORCIS?



WE'RE FROM TYRE IN PHOENICIA. MY NAME IS EKONOMIKRISIS. WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUY ANY GLASS, JEWELS, TEXTILES, PURPLE, FURNITURE?

NO, WE WANT TO GO TO ROME.



HM... ER... ALL RIGHT, COME ON BOARD!



ARE THOSE SLAVES?

OH NO, THEY'RE PARTNERS... WHEN WE FLOATED THE COMPANY, I DREW UP THE CONTRACT AND THEY FAILED TO READ IT CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING. I'M CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR.



IT'S KIND OF YOU TO TAKE US TO ROME. I HOPE IT DOESN'T MEAN GOING OUT OF YOUR WAY?

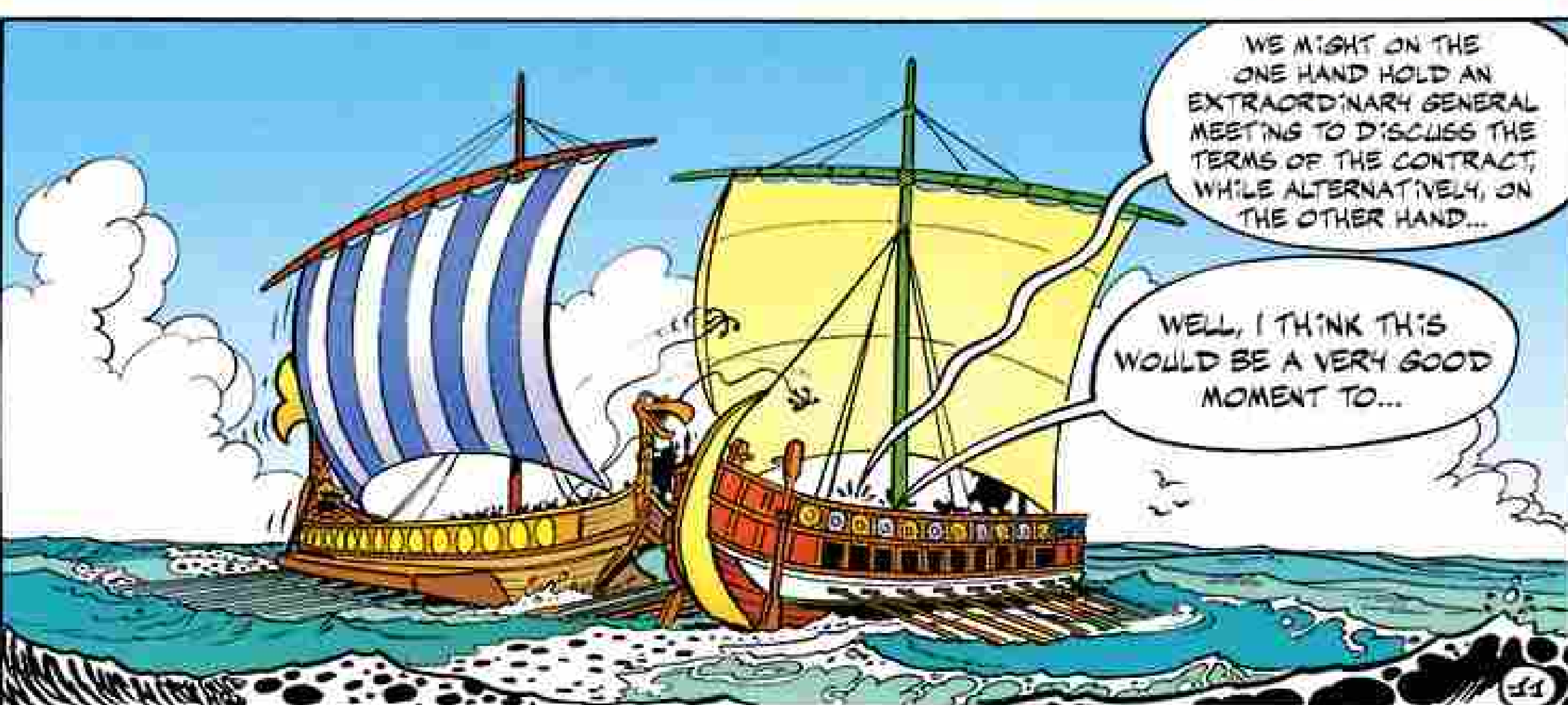
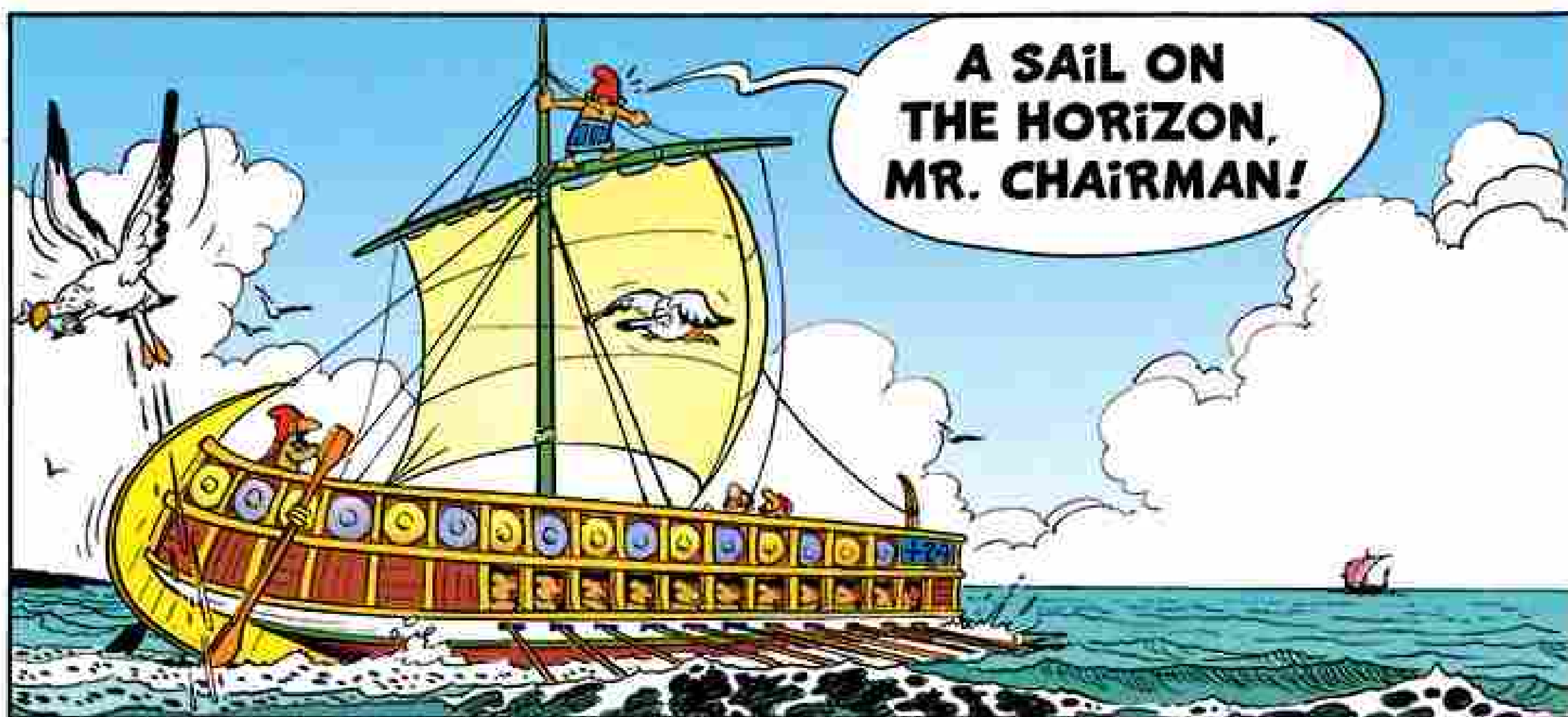
AS IT HAPPENS, WE WERE PLANNING TO GO TO ROME. ONE OF MY PREDECESSORS ABANDONED HIS SHIP THERE...

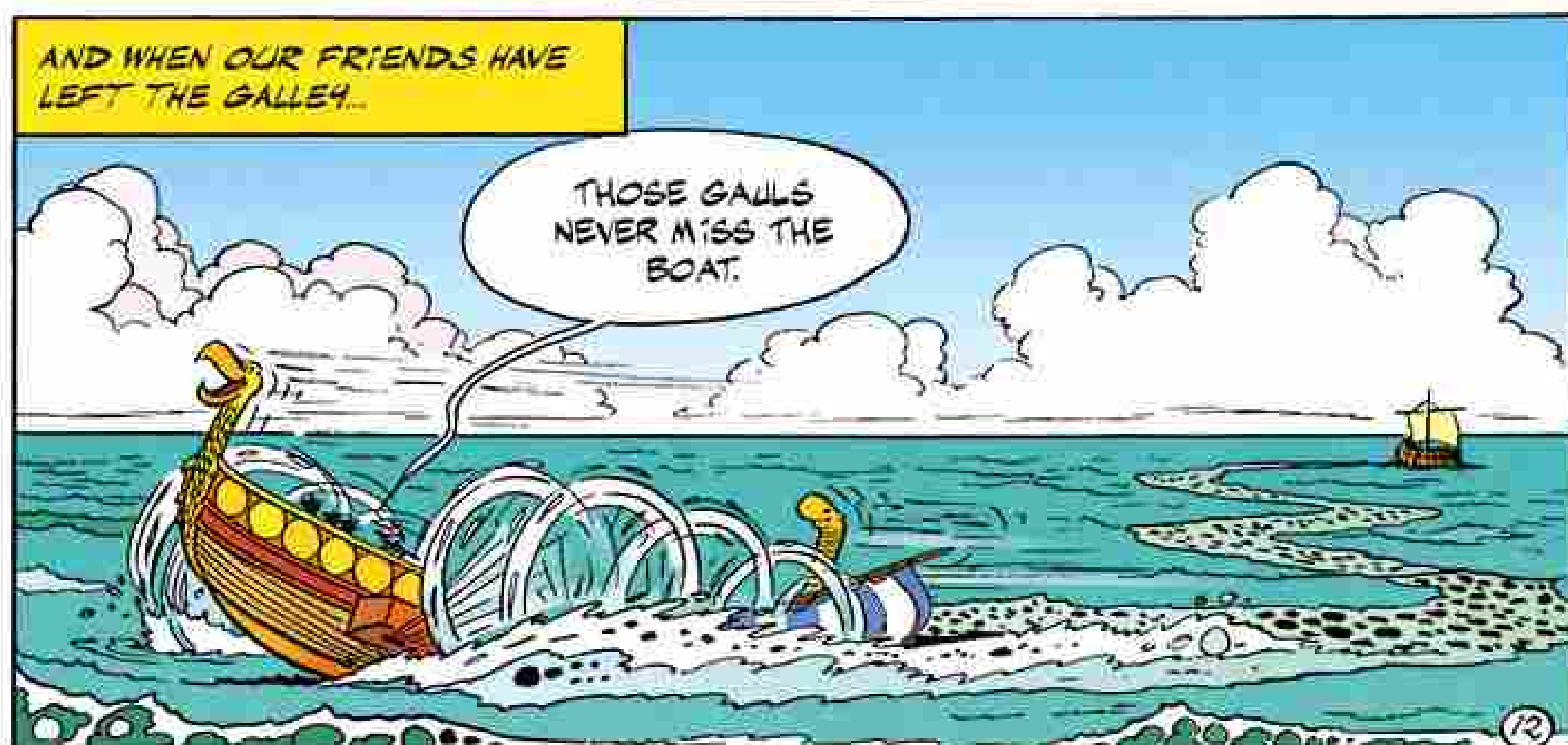


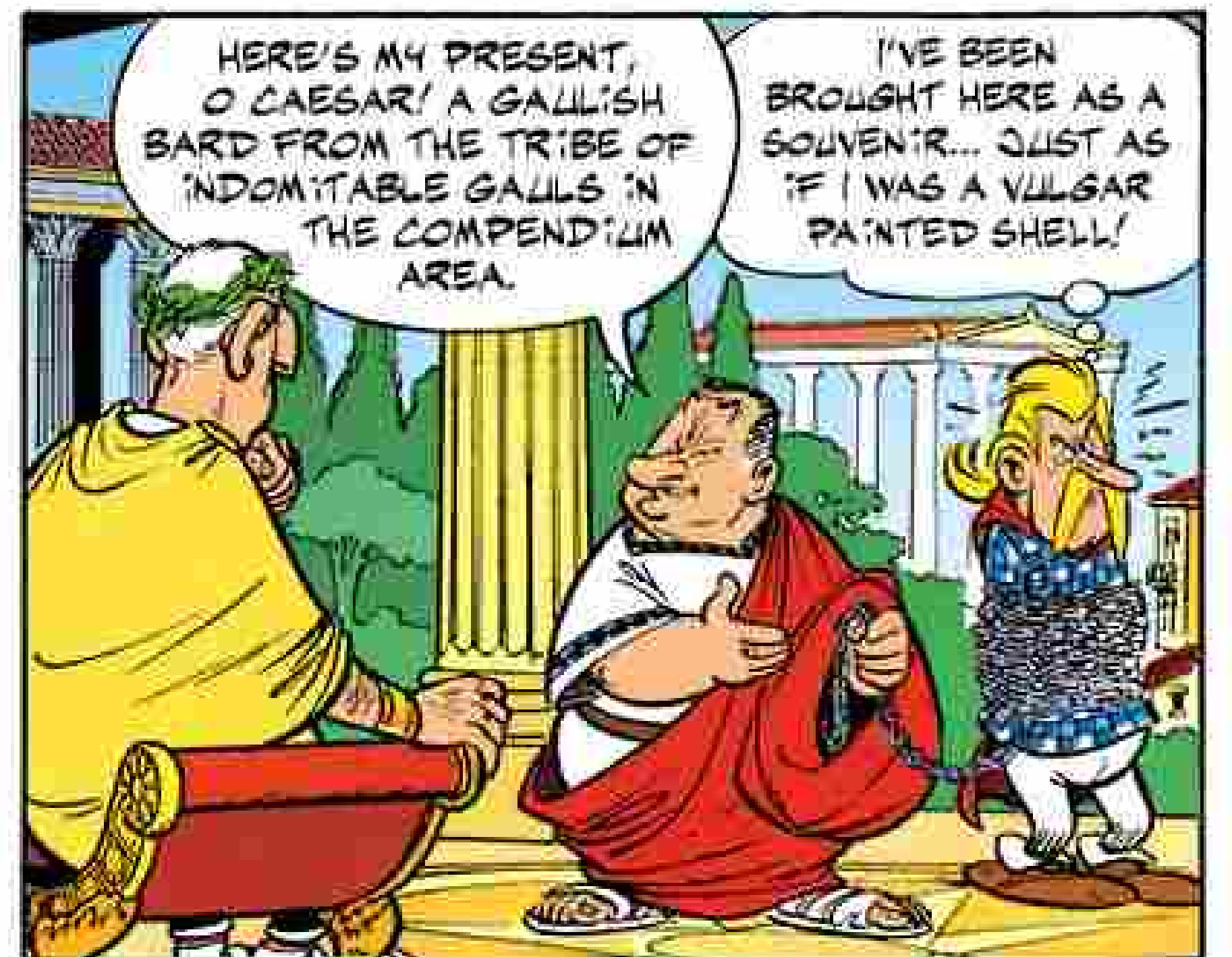
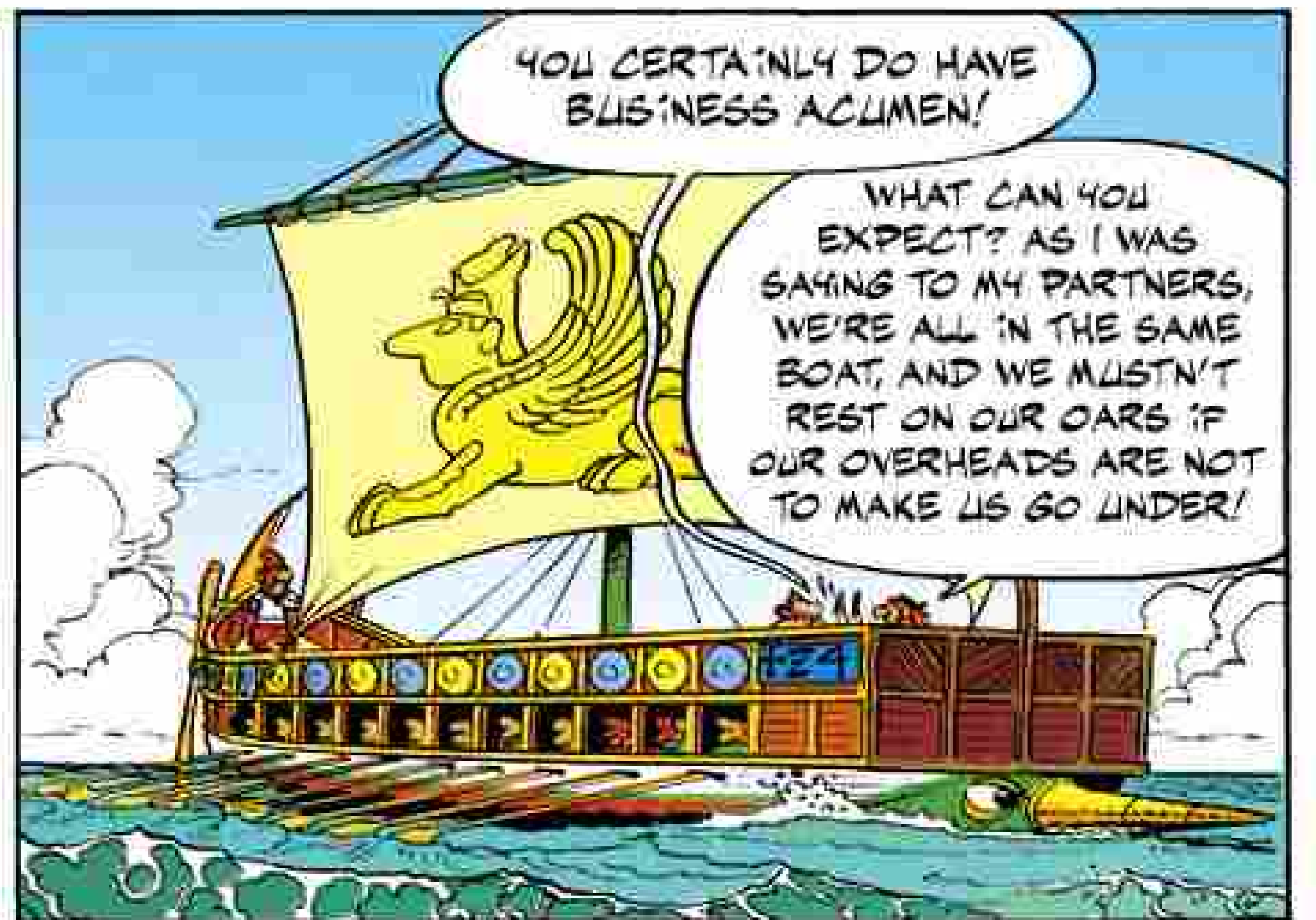
IT SANK?

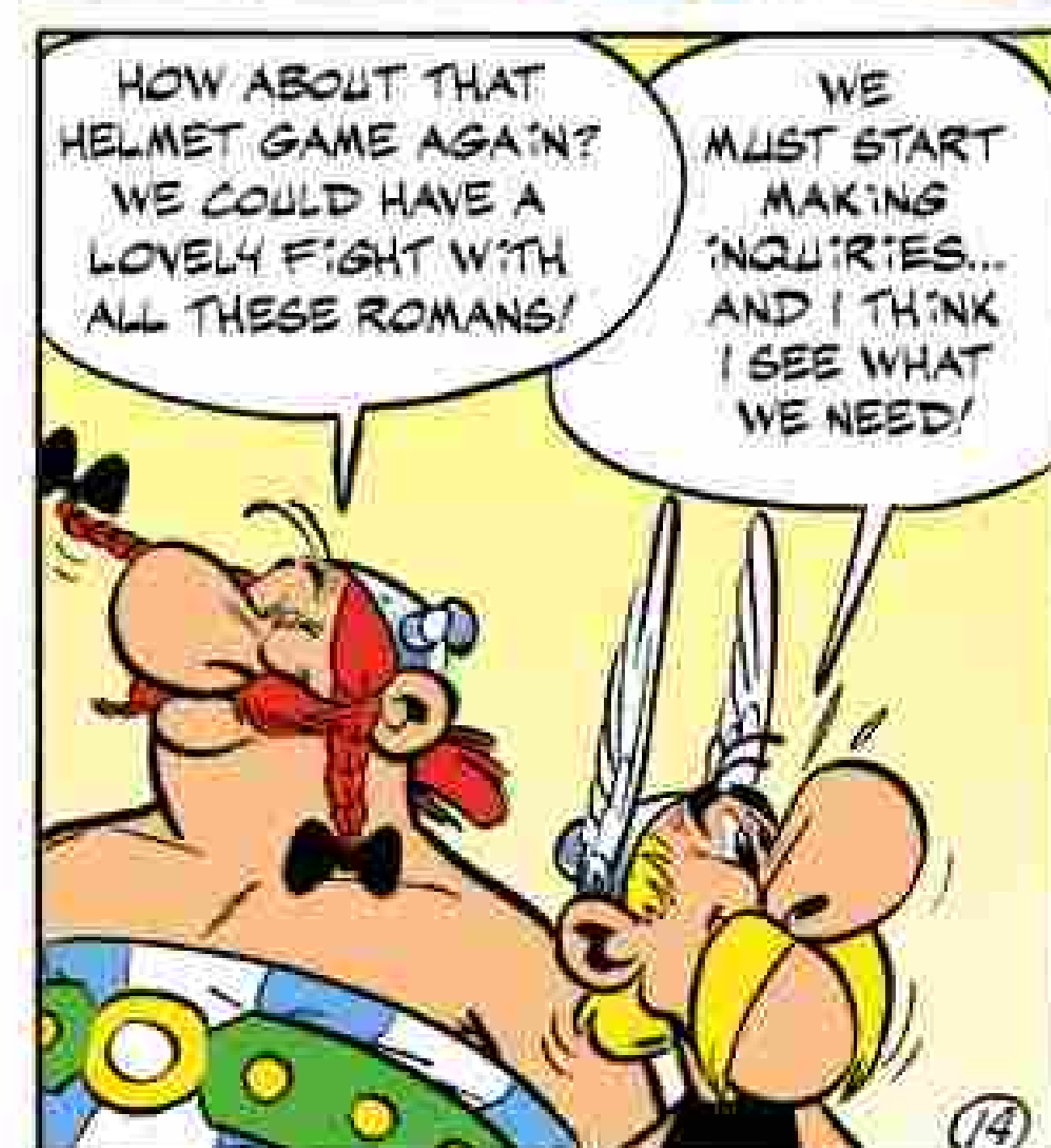
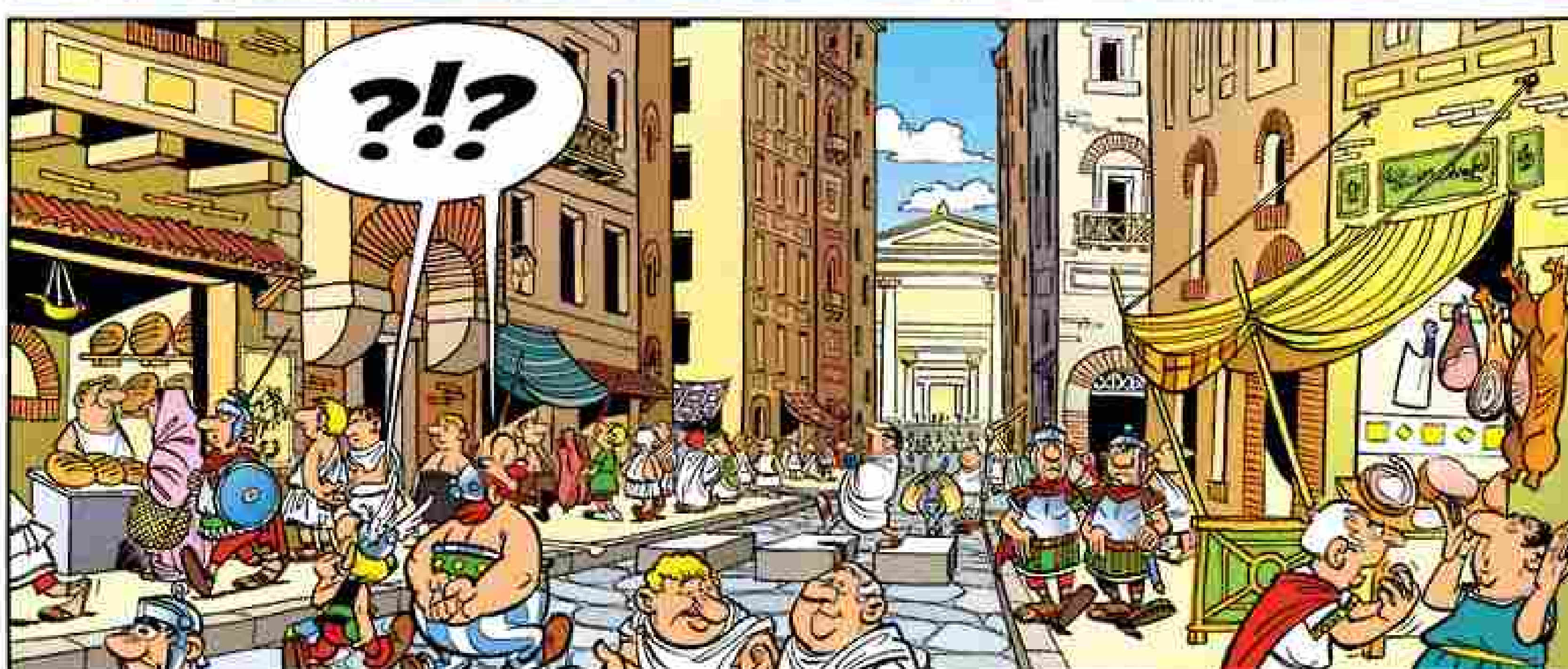
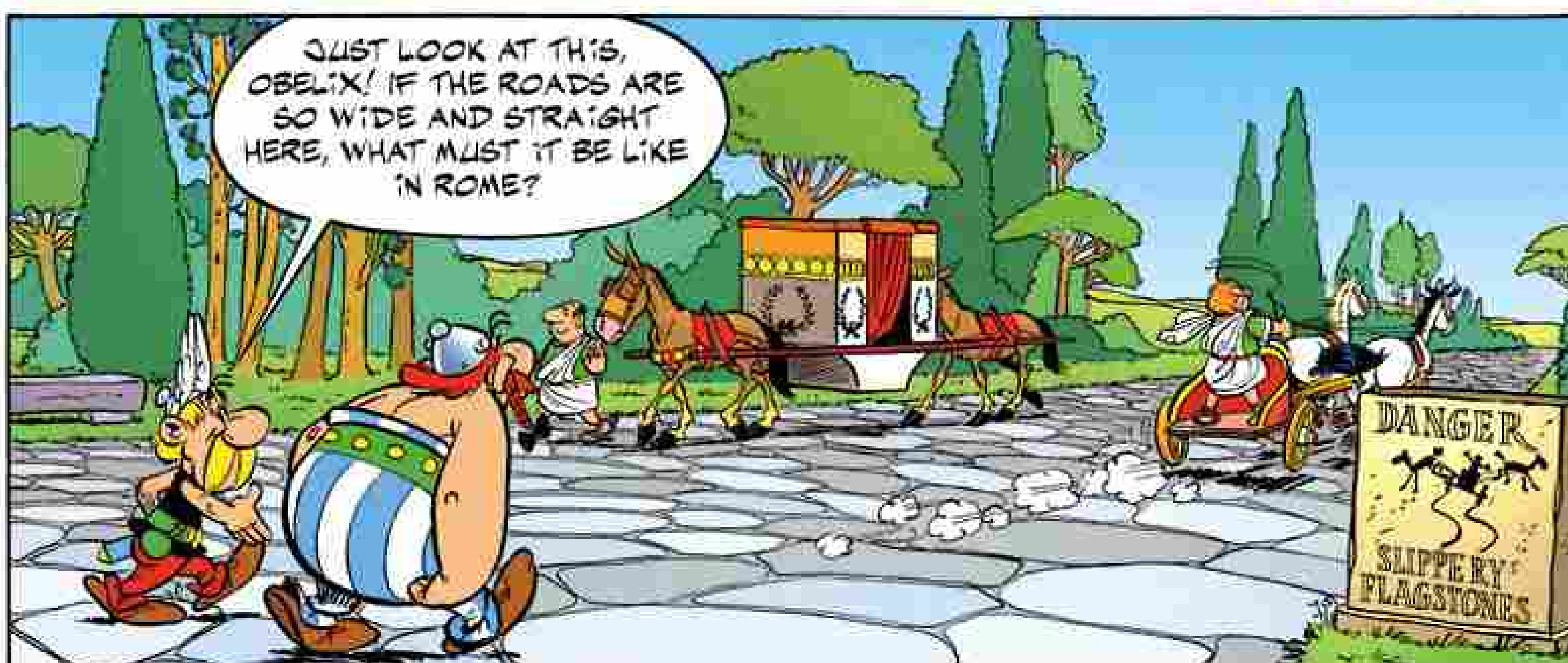
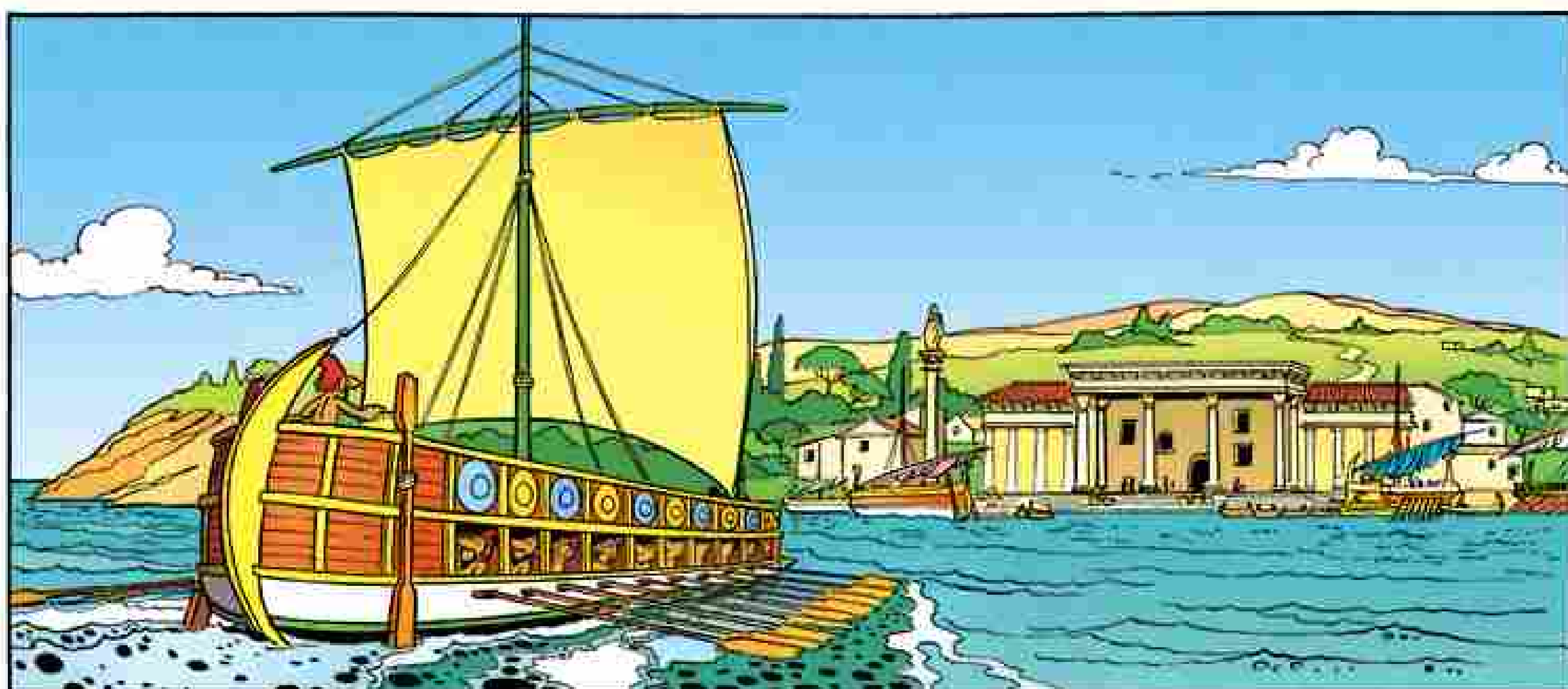


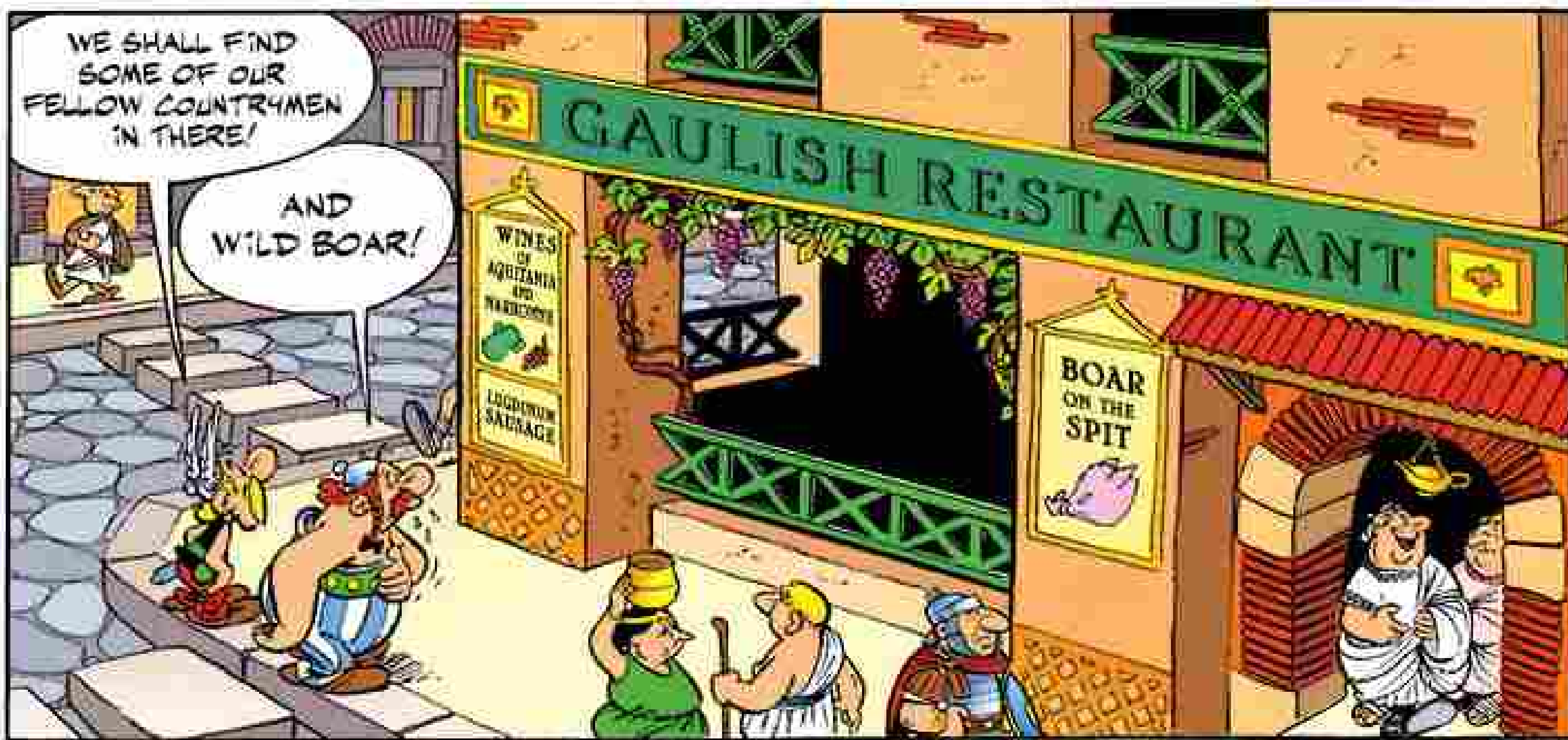
NO, HE SOLD IT. HE WAS A BETTER SALESMAN THAN SAILSMAN.

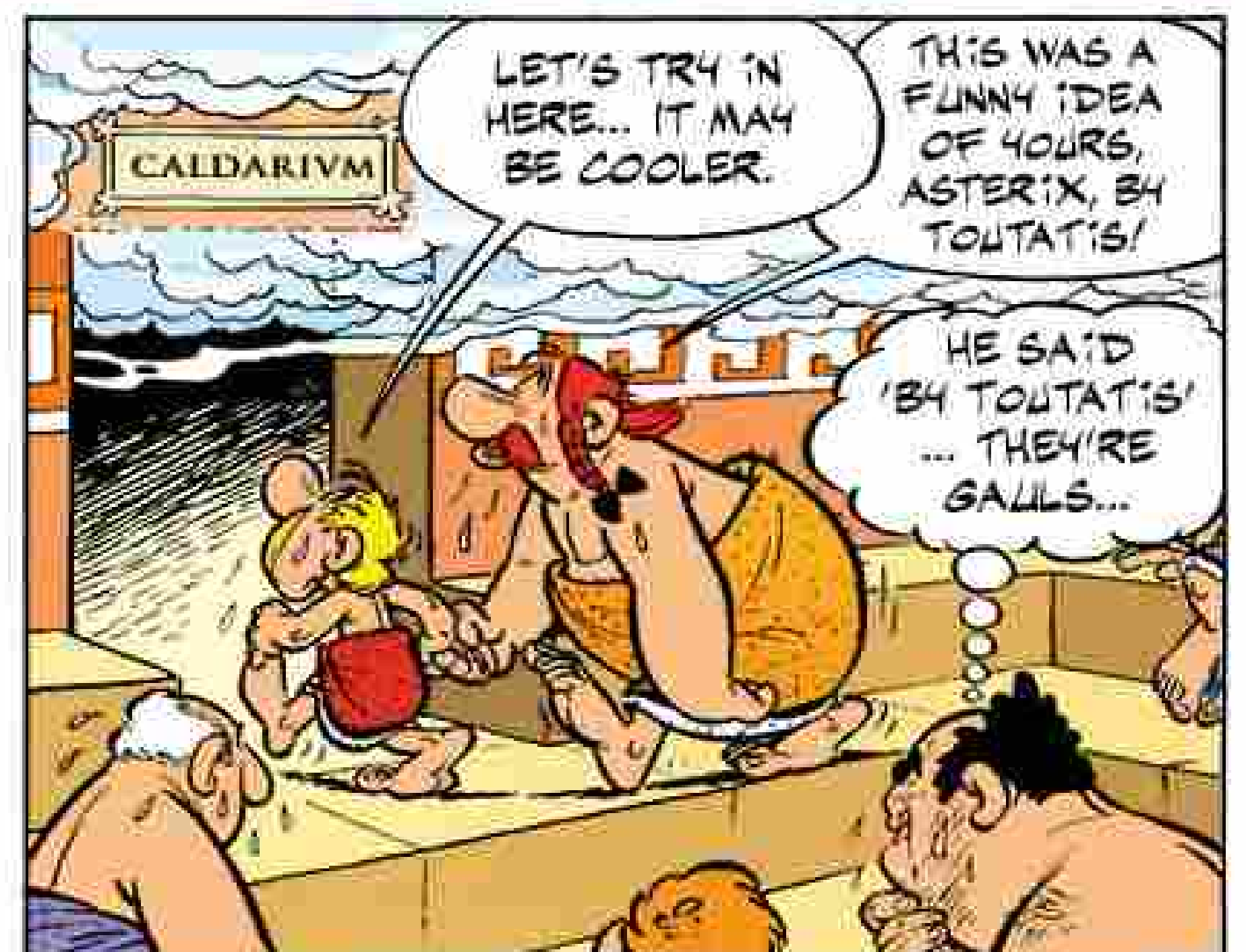
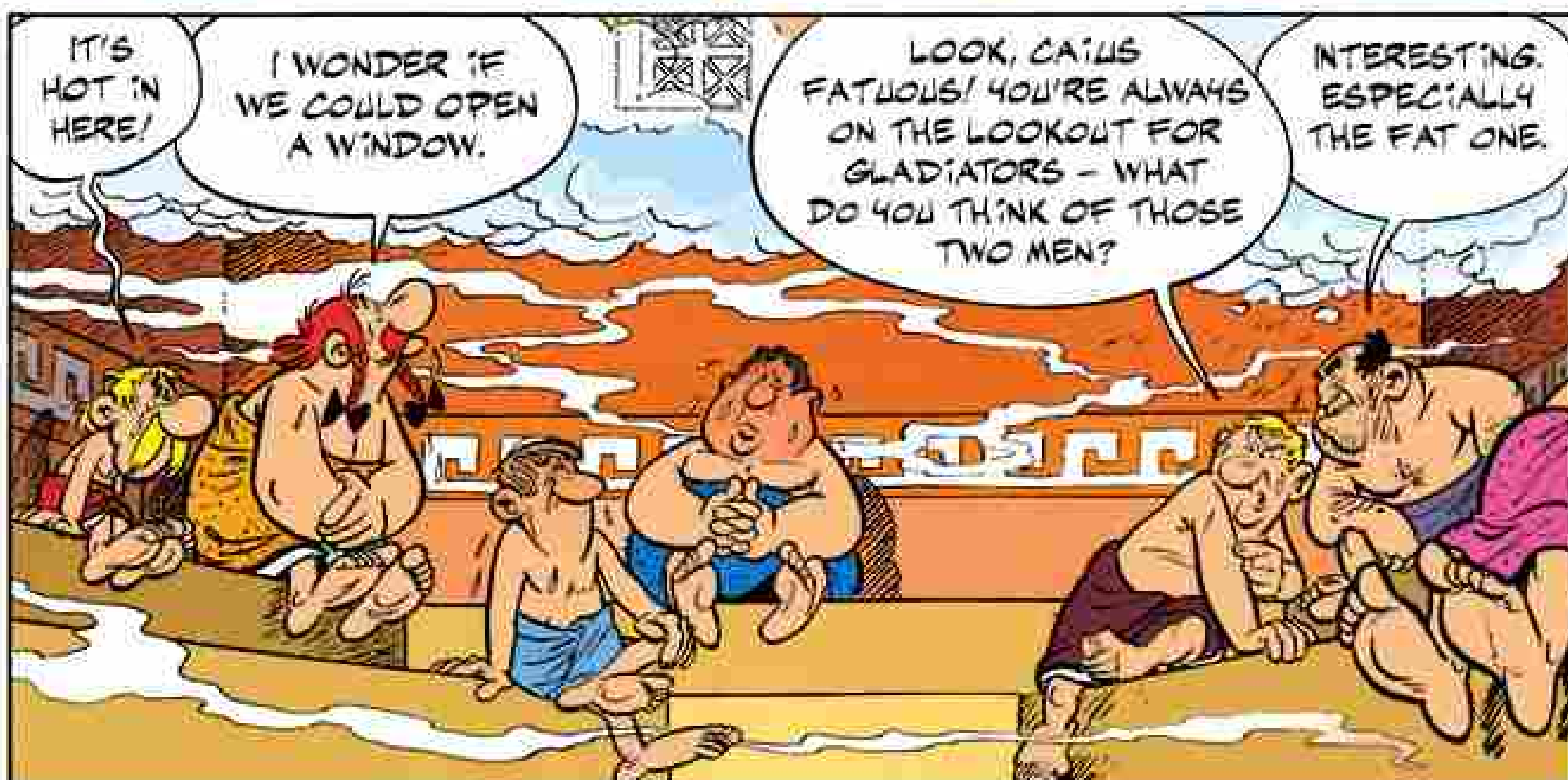


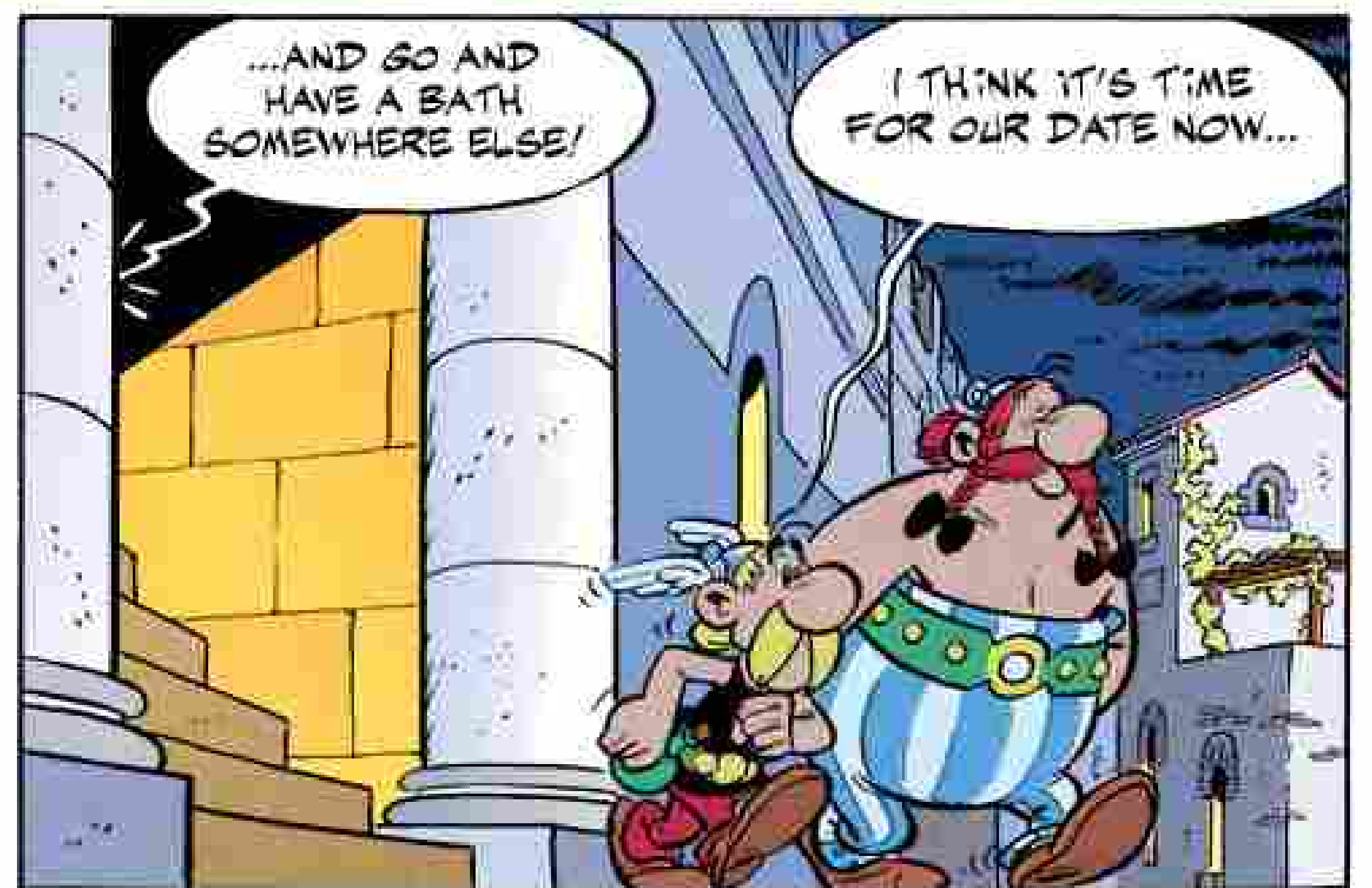
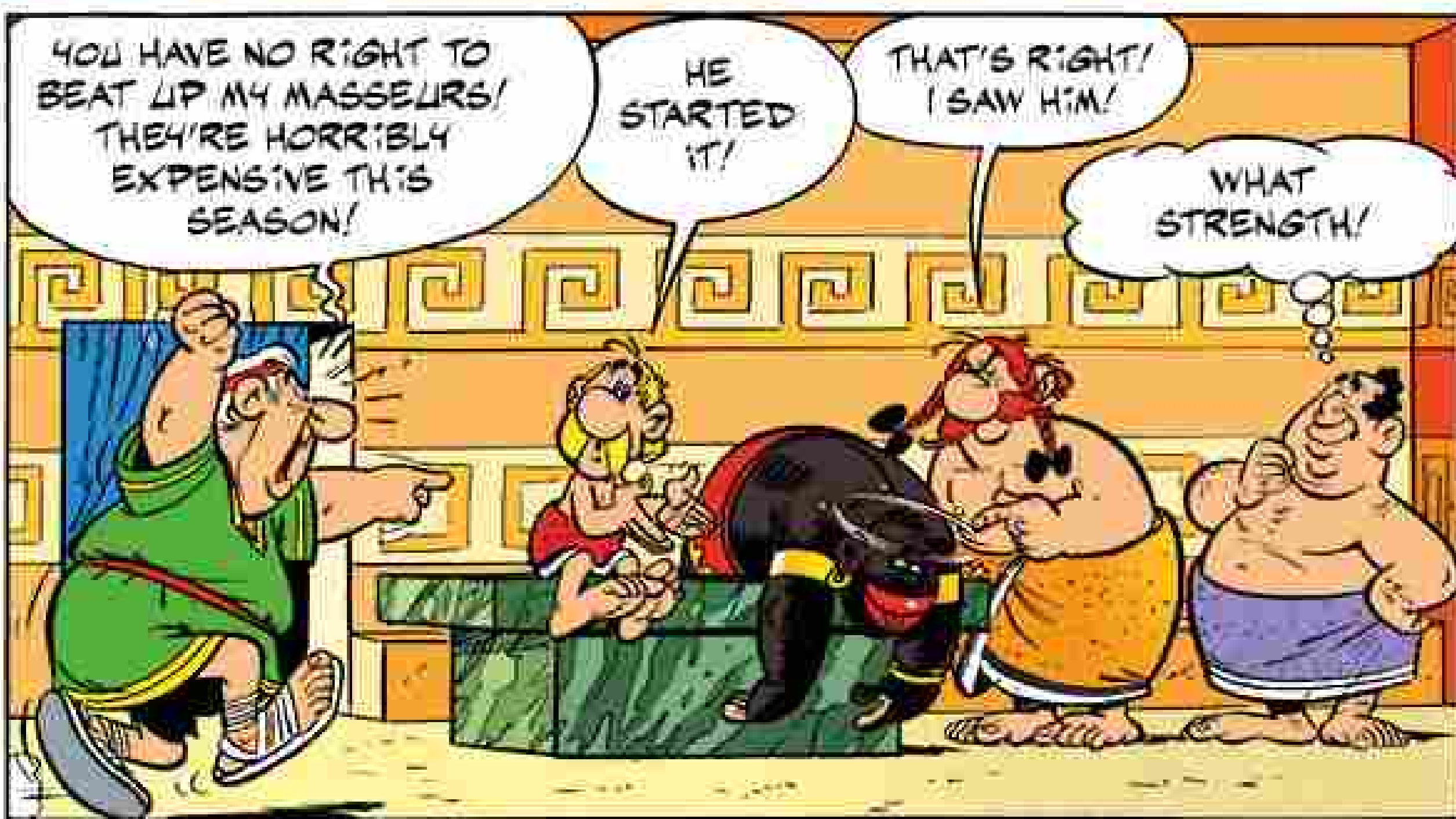


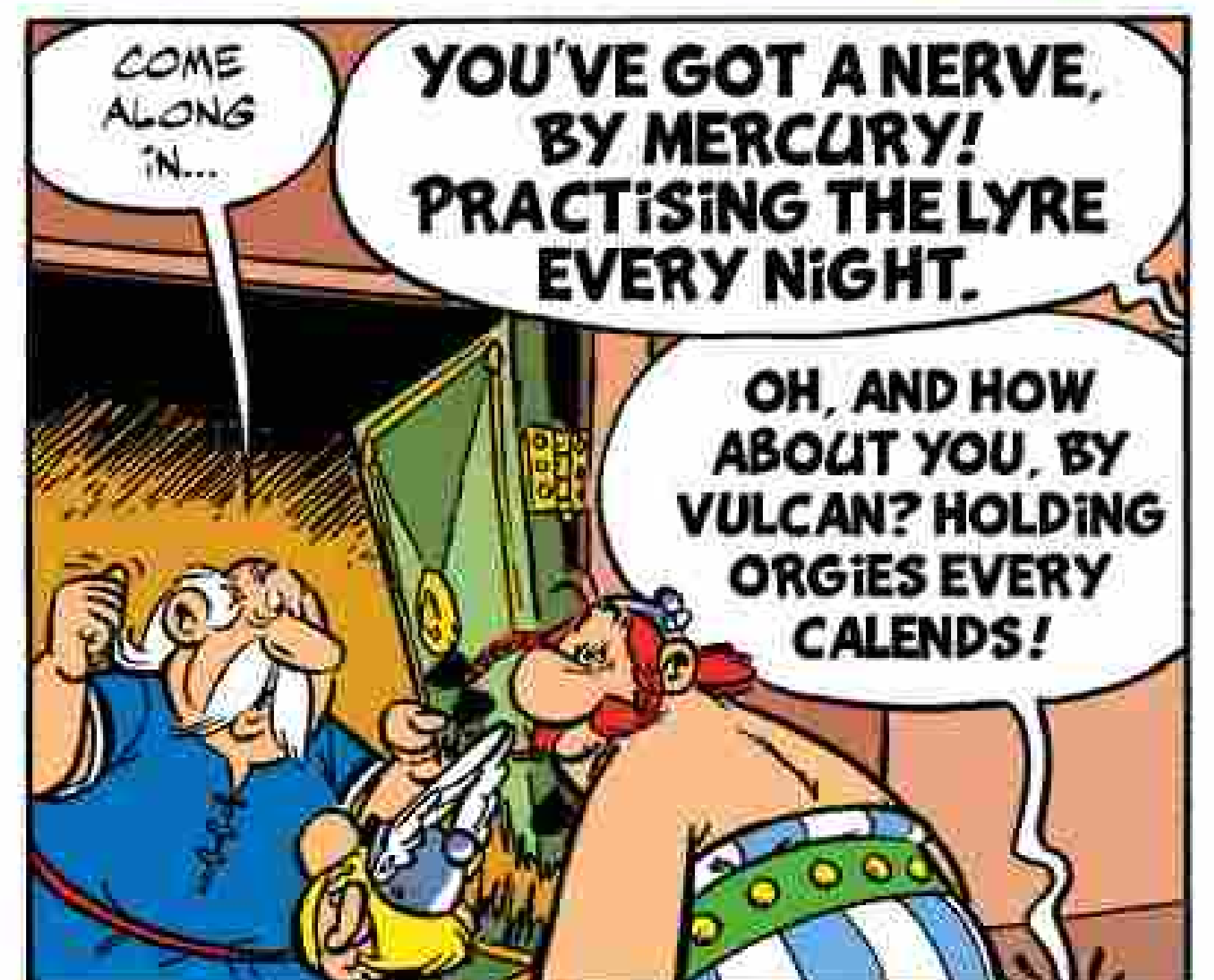


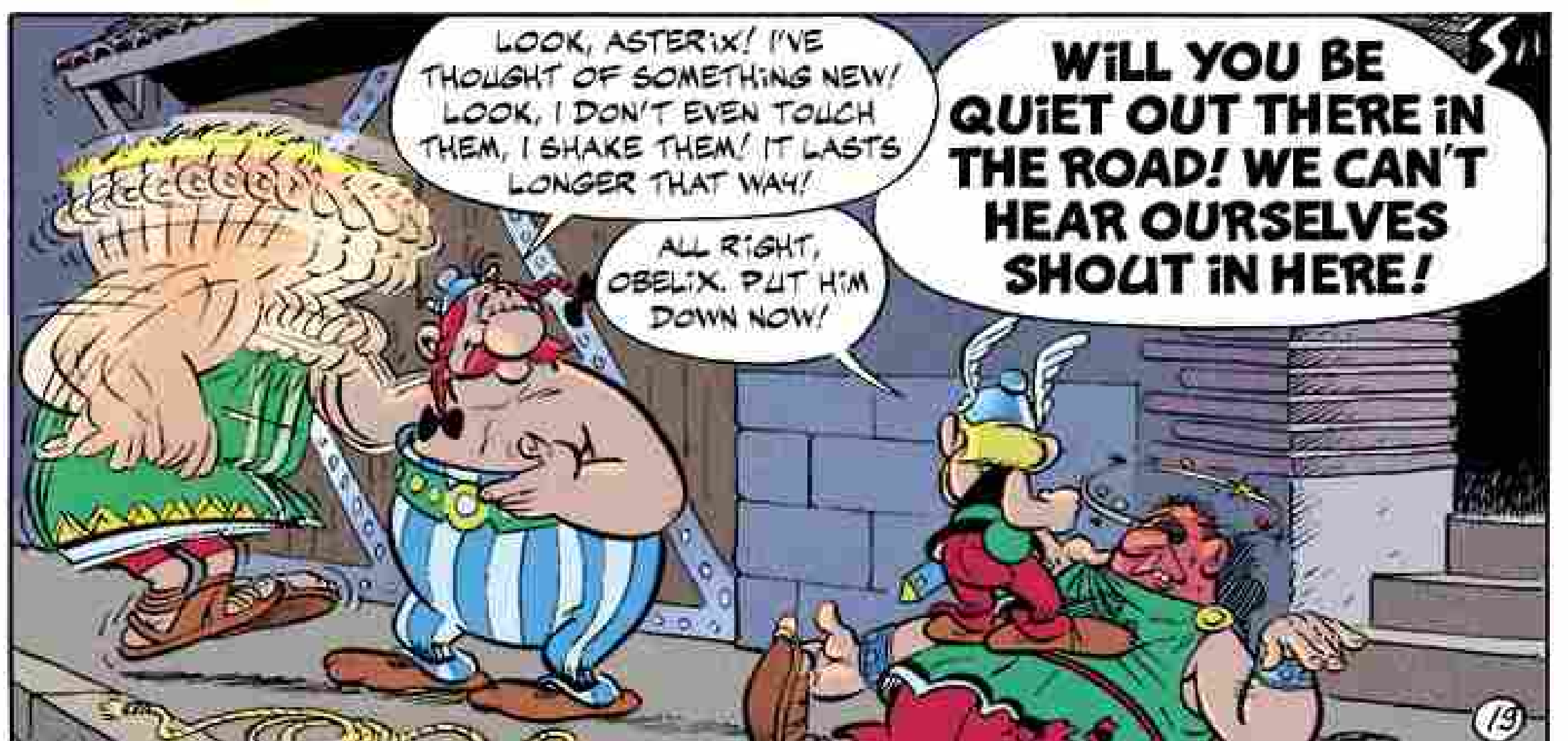


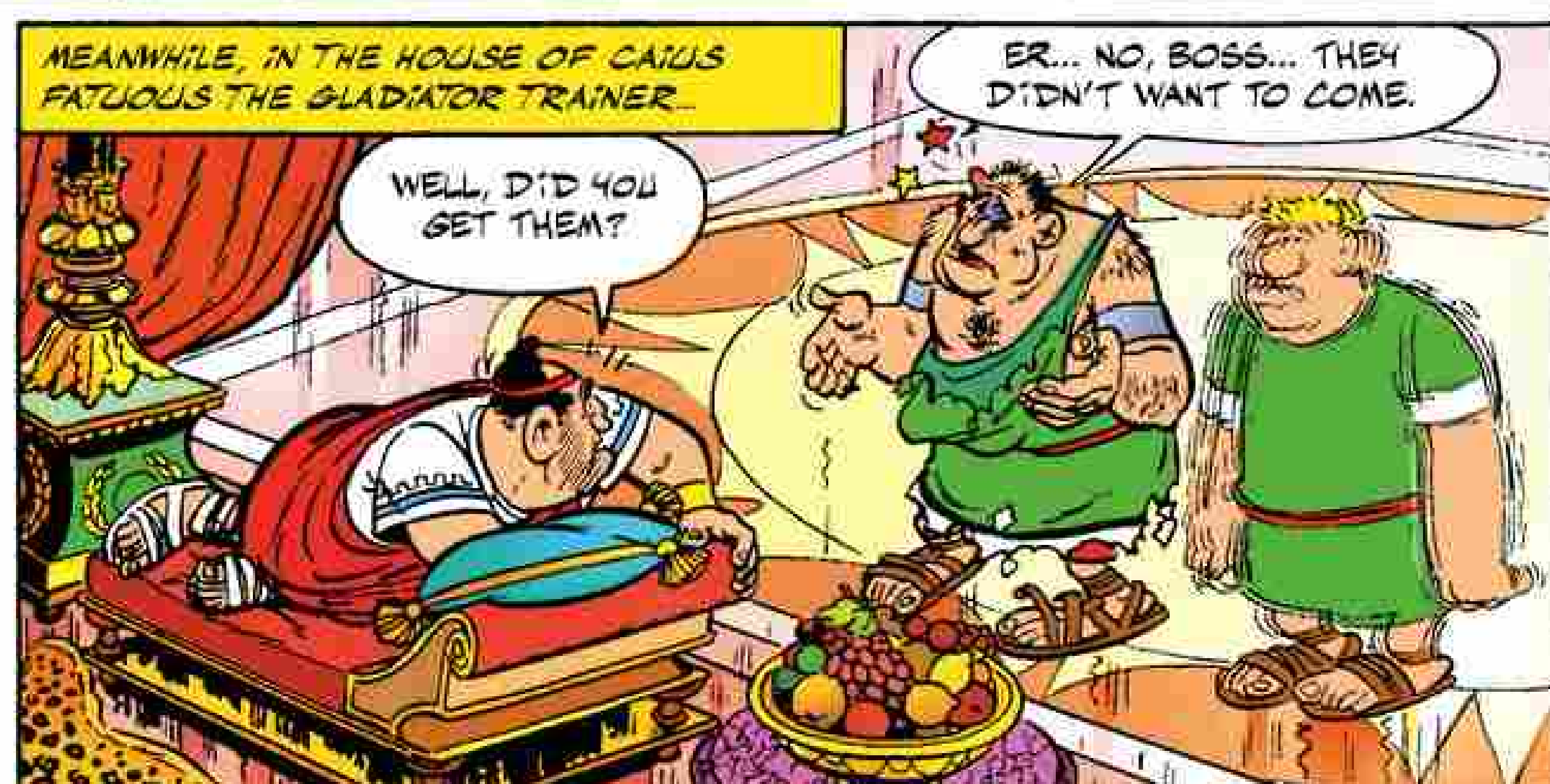




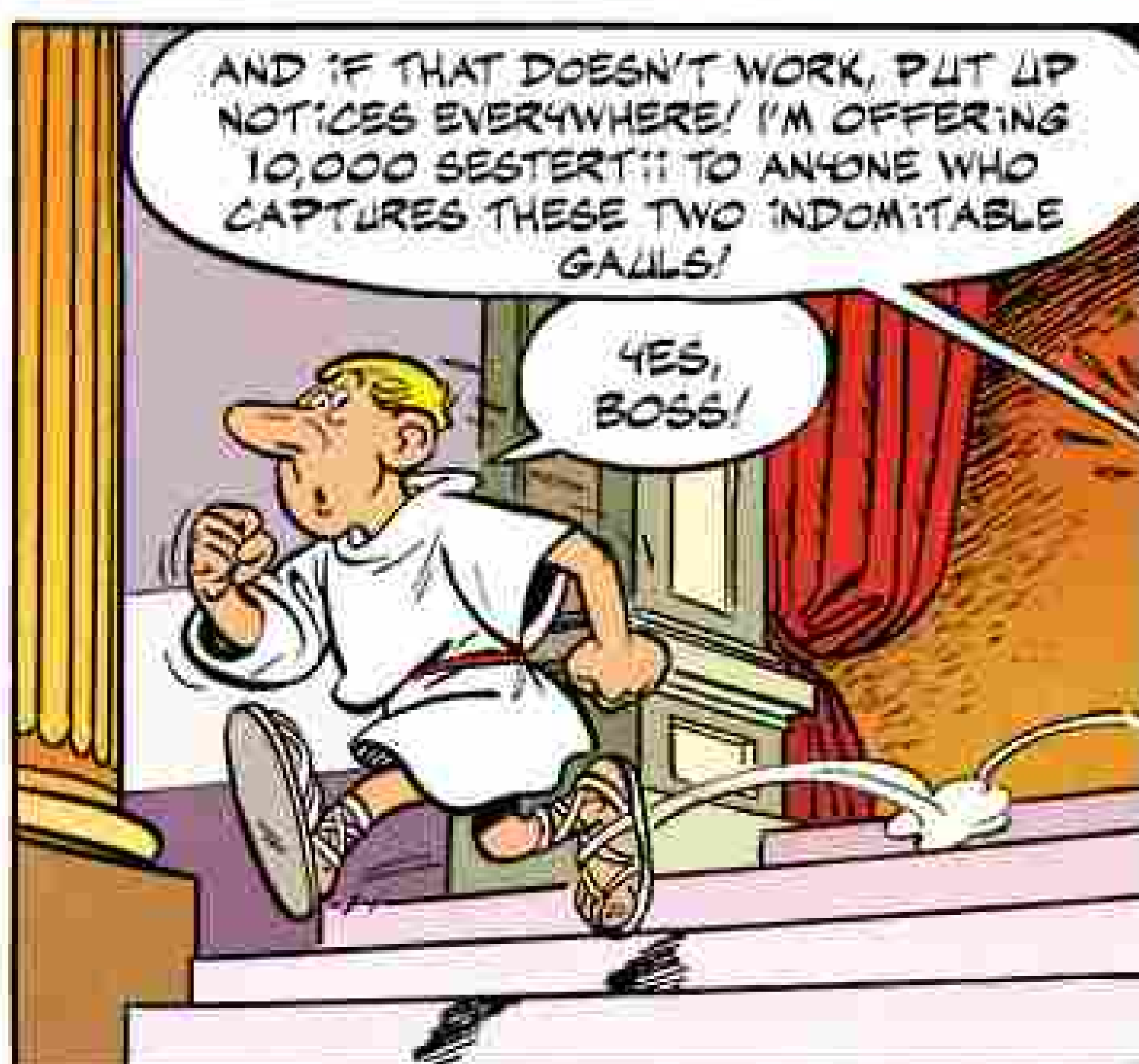


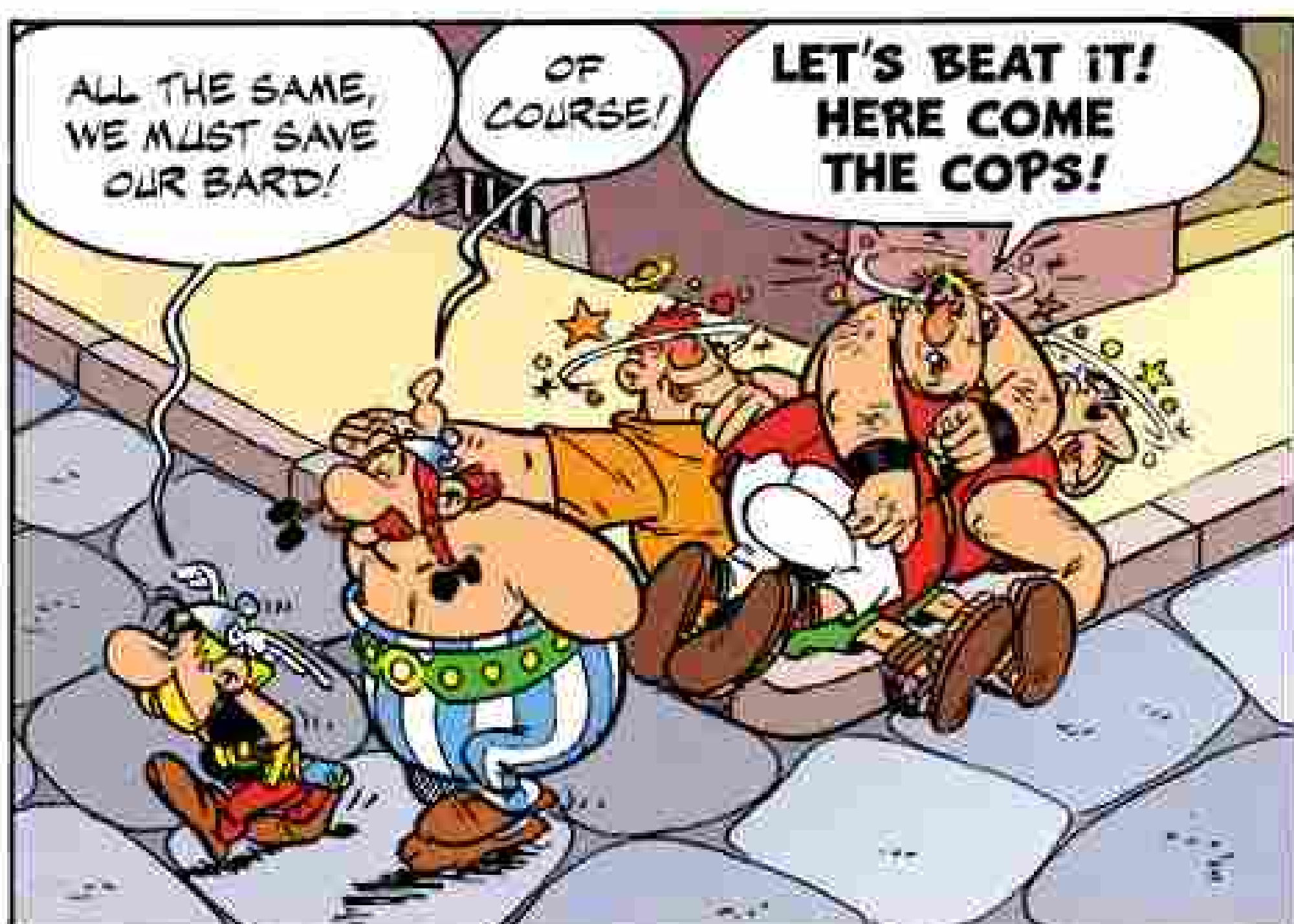


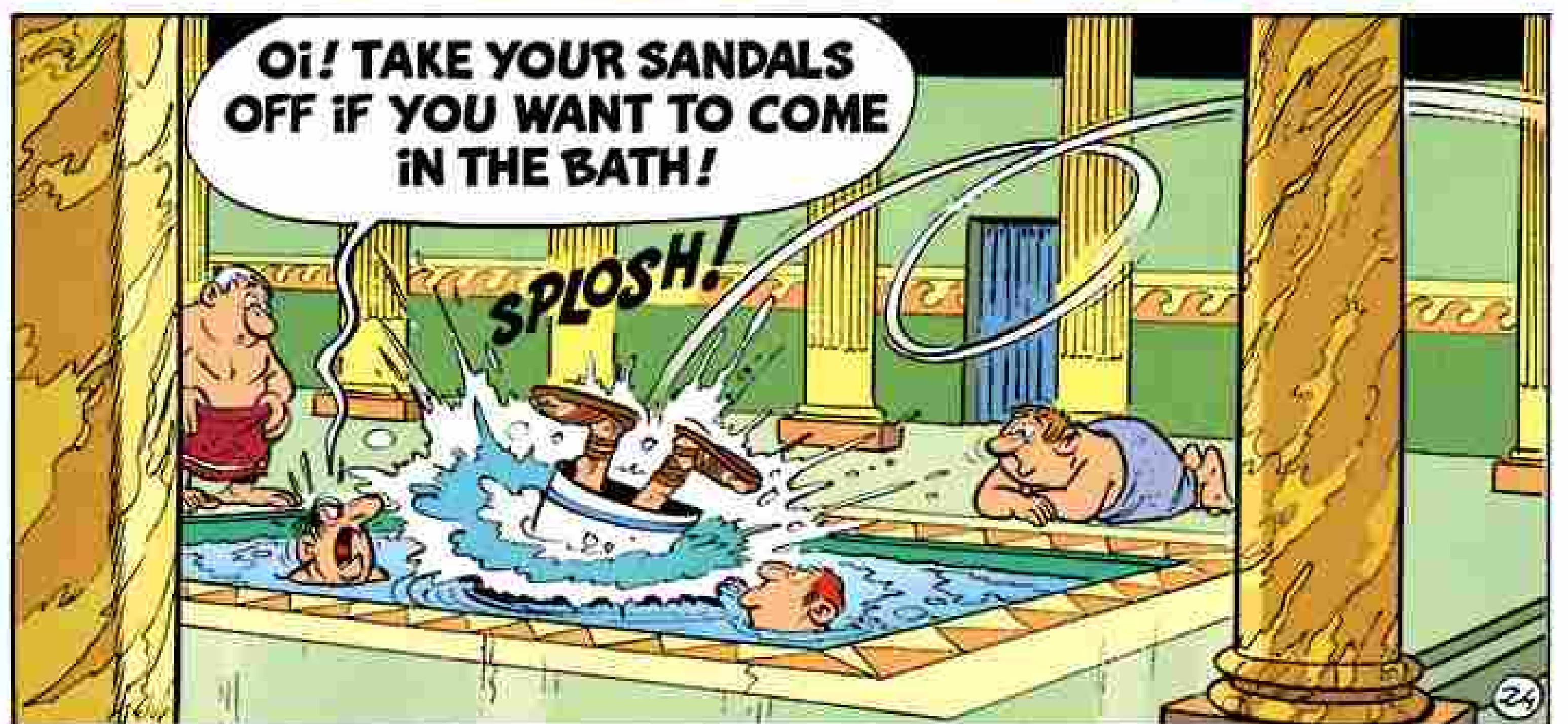


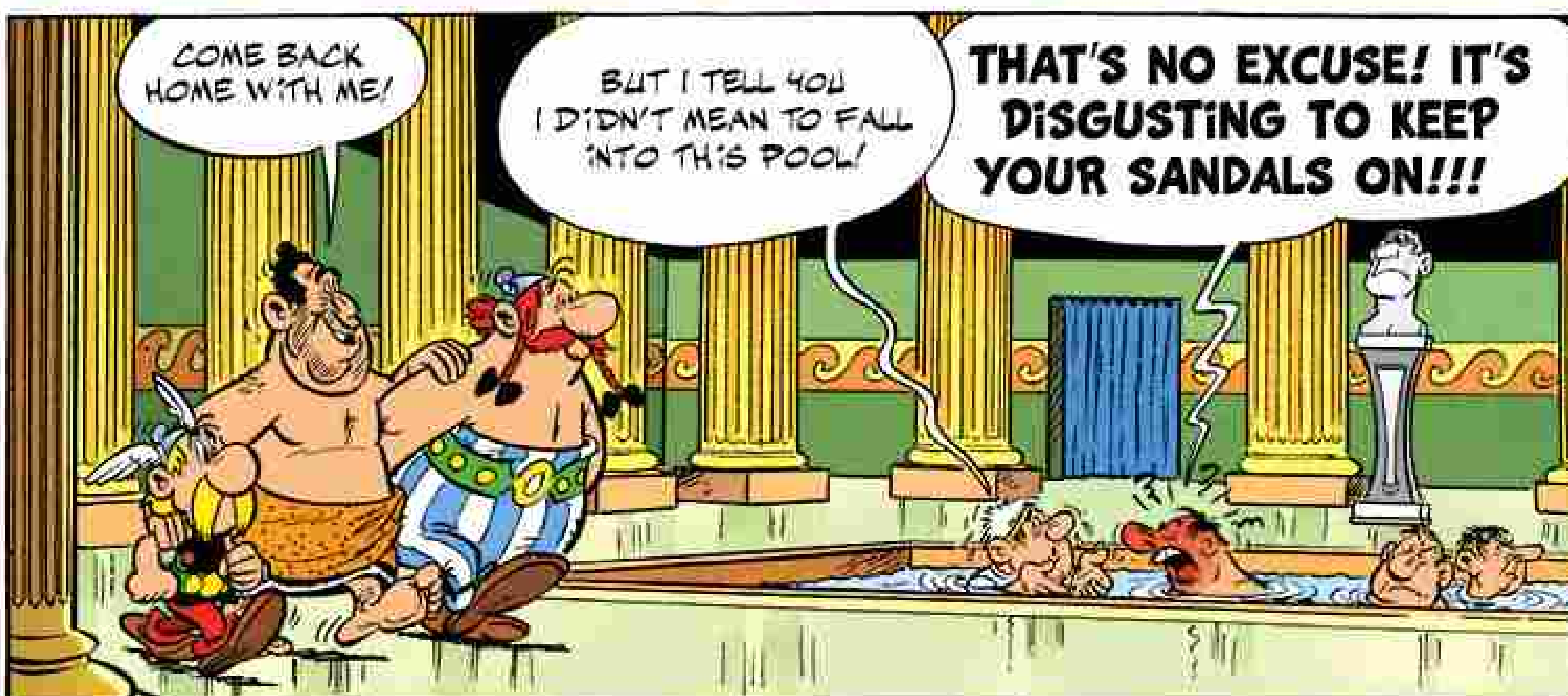
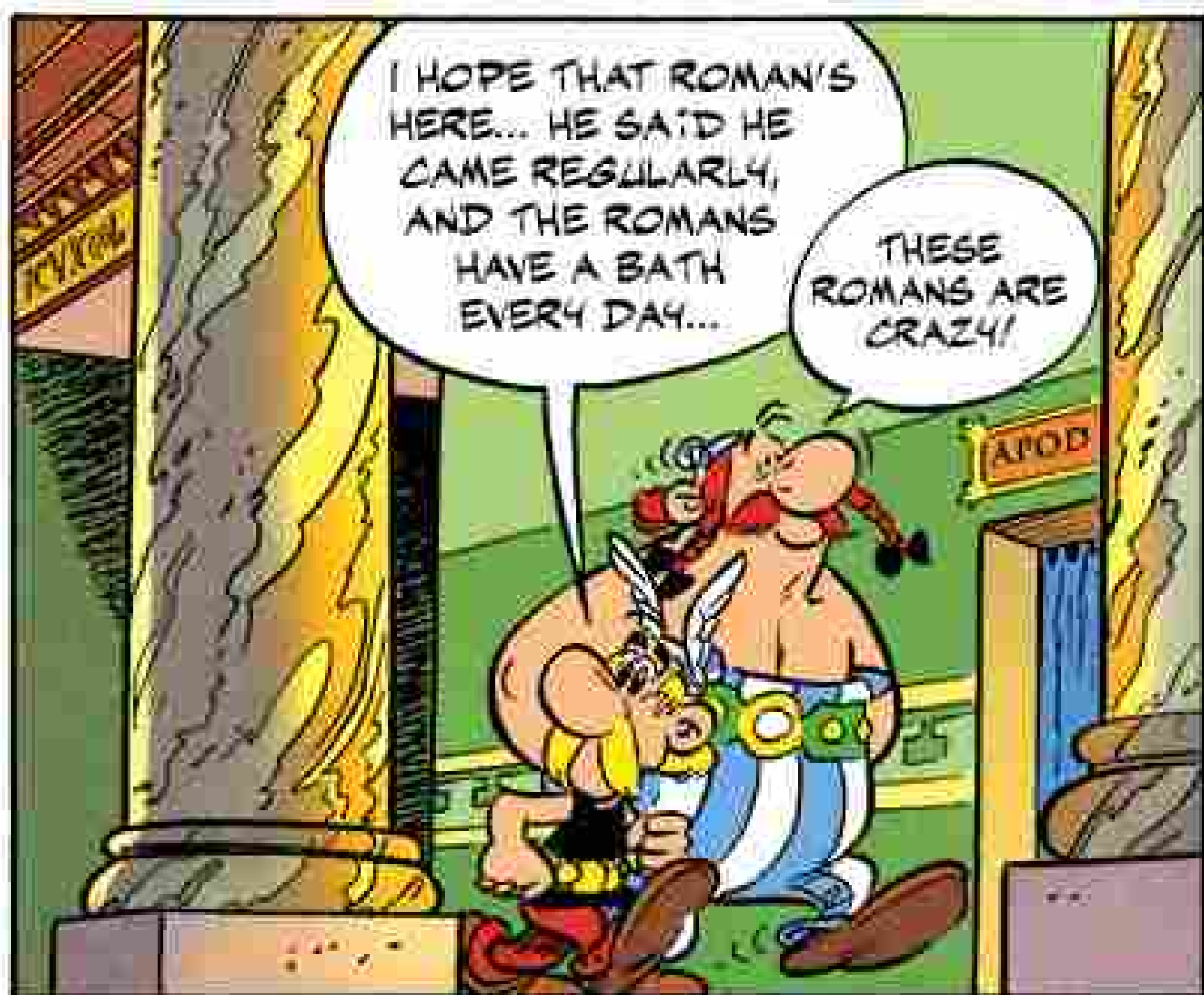


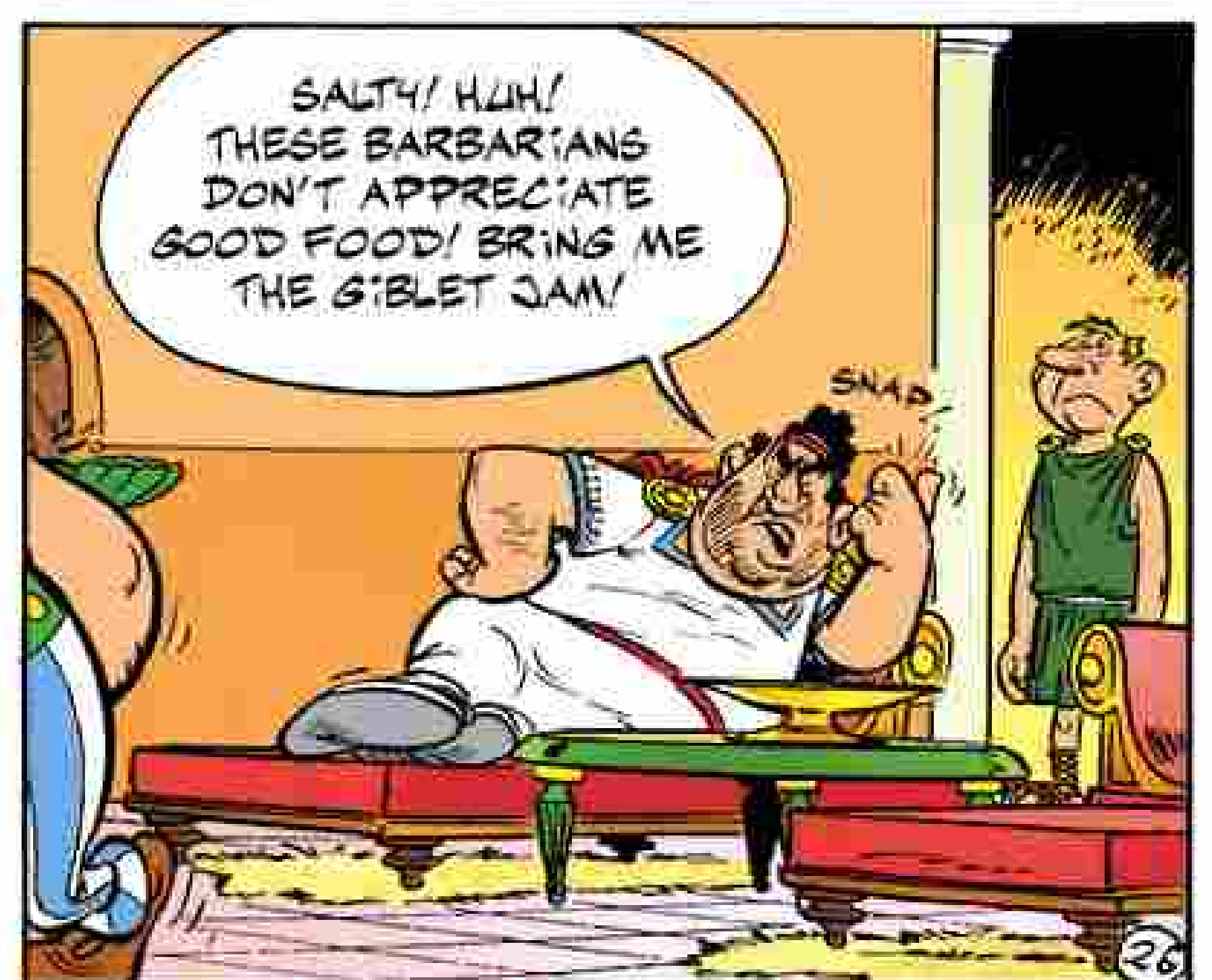
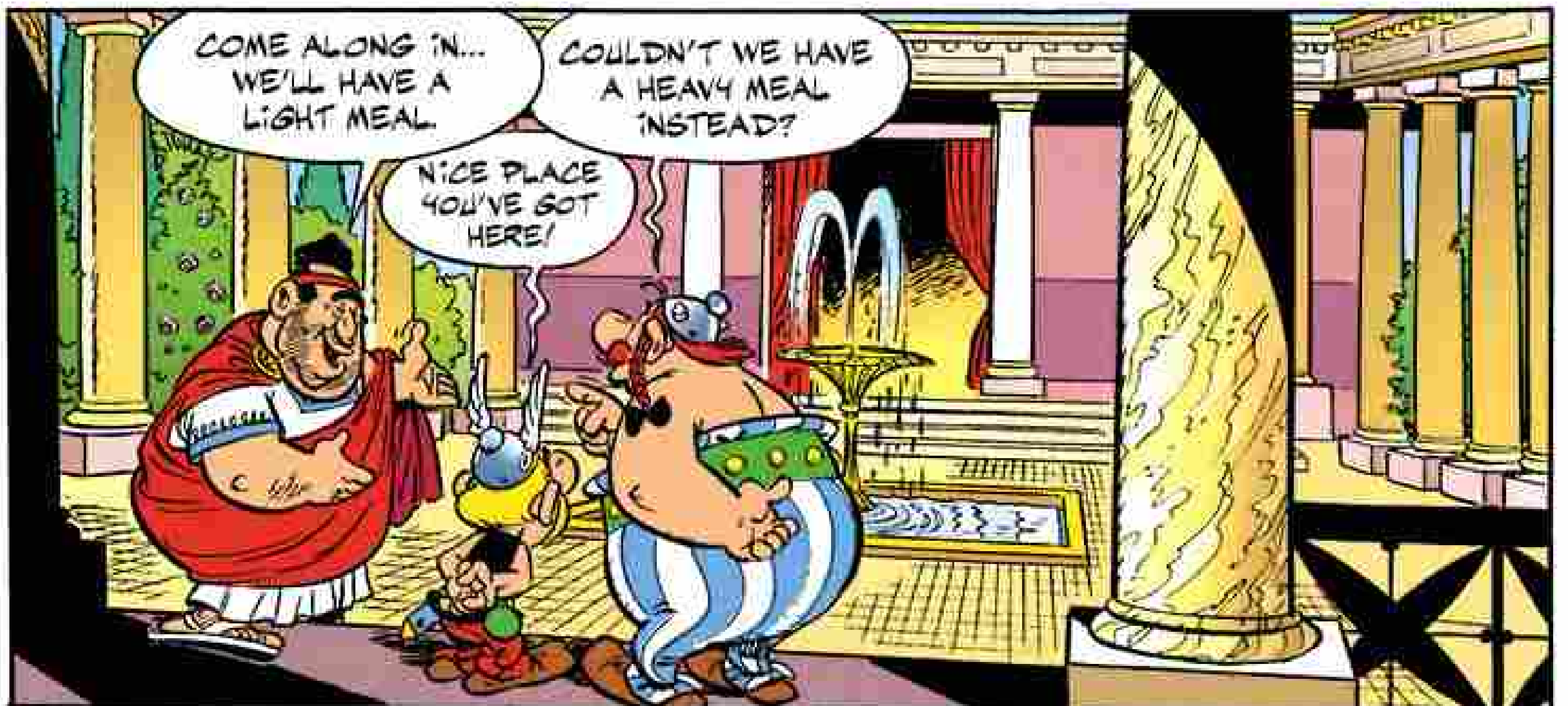




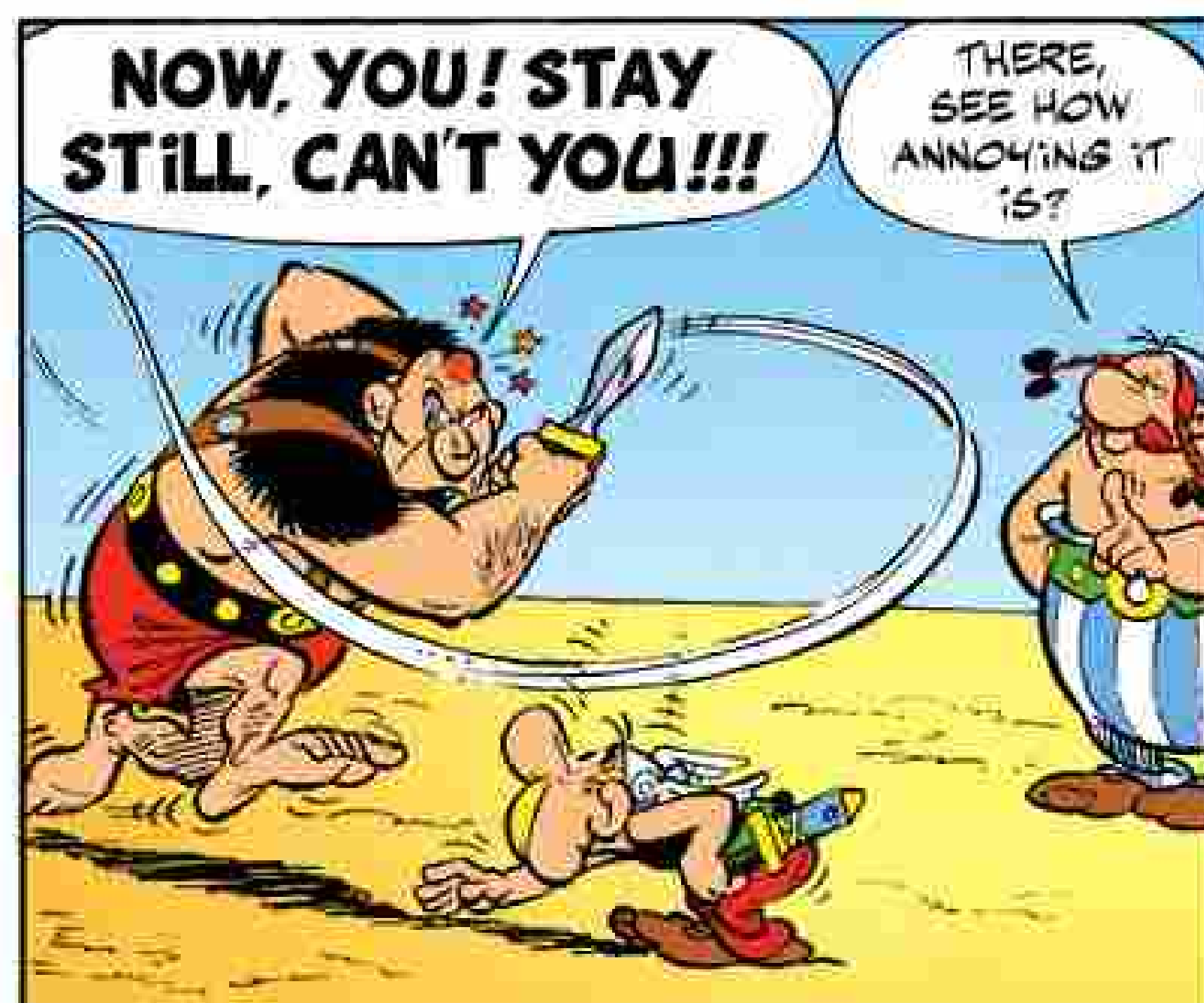
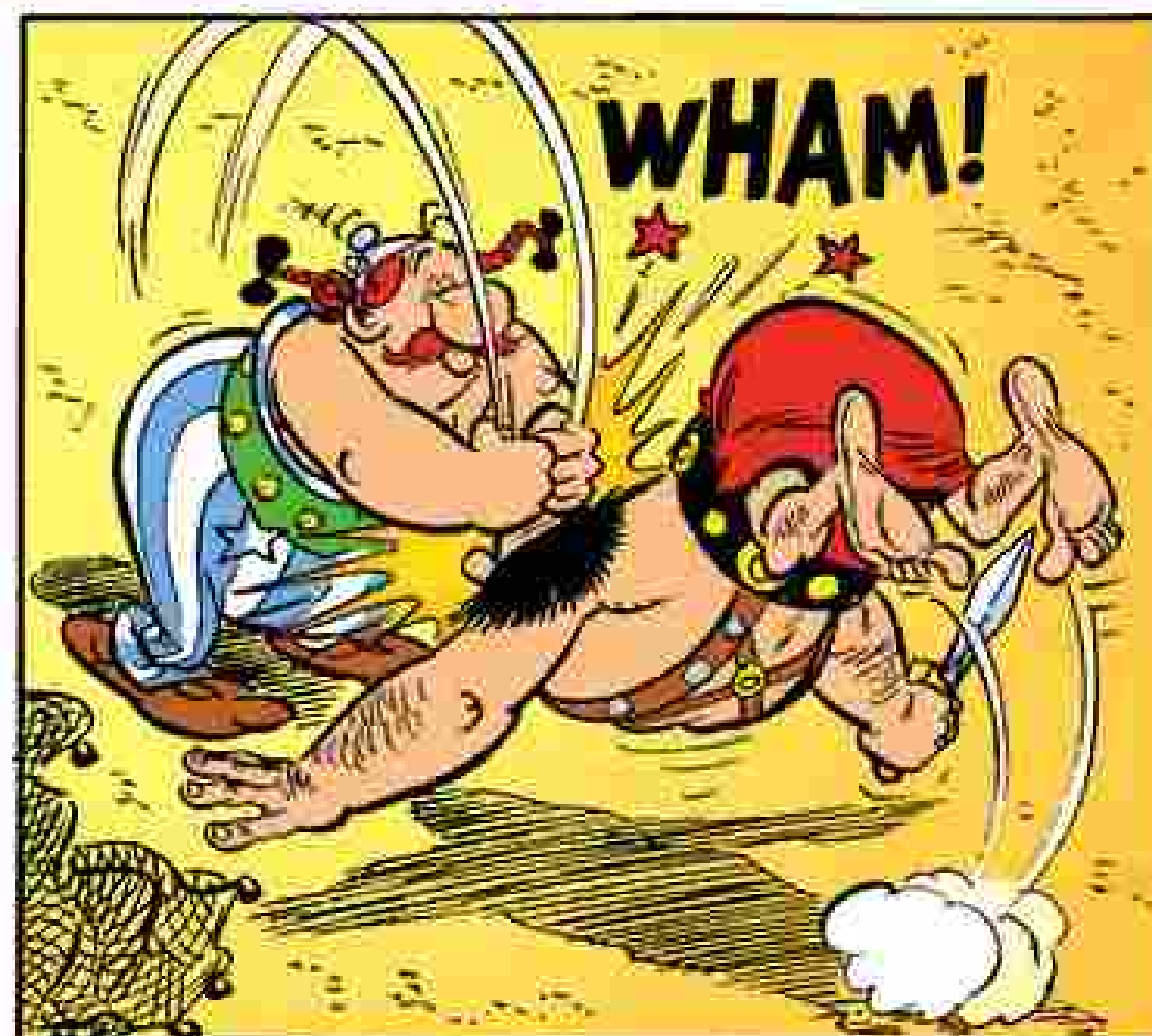
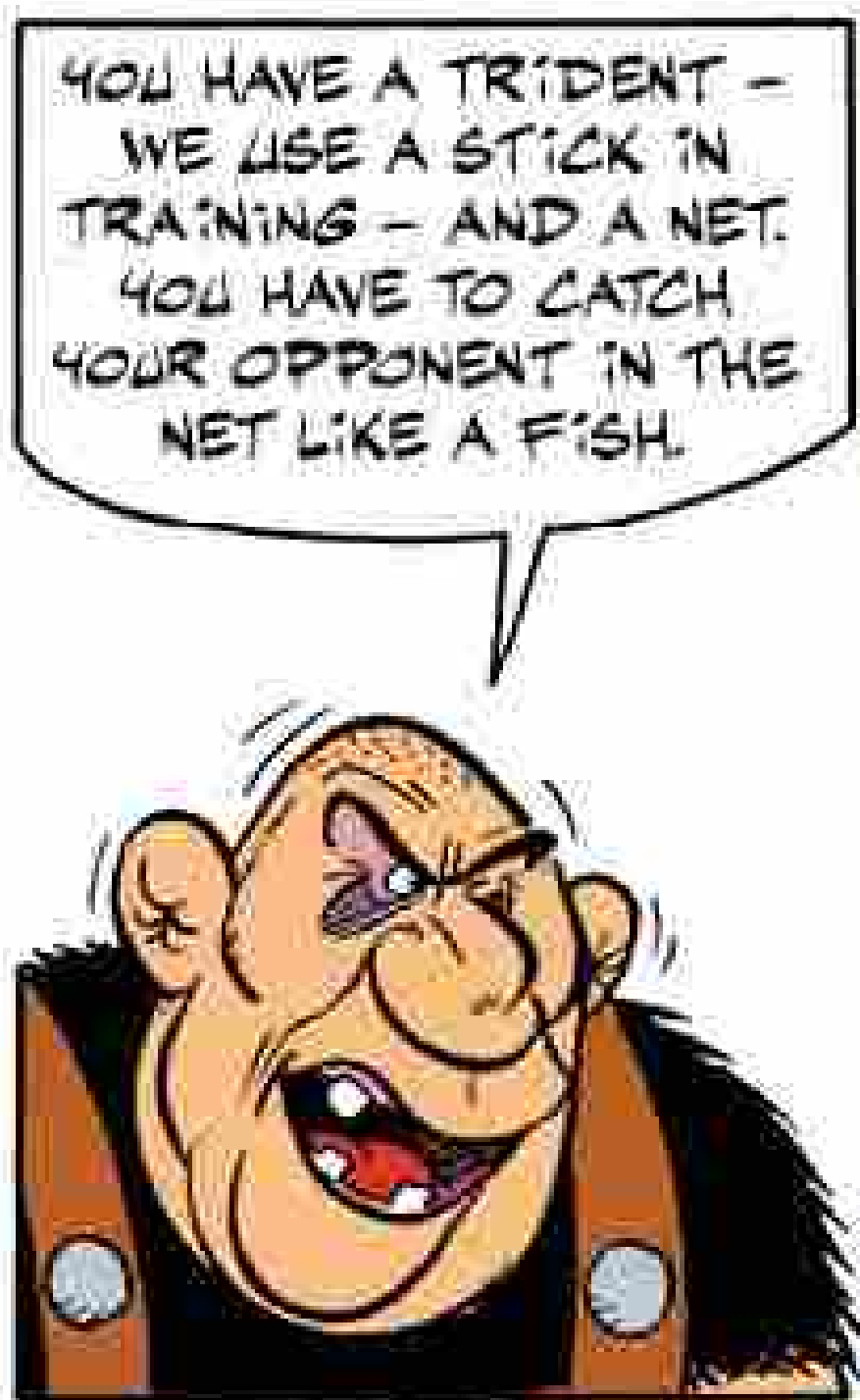




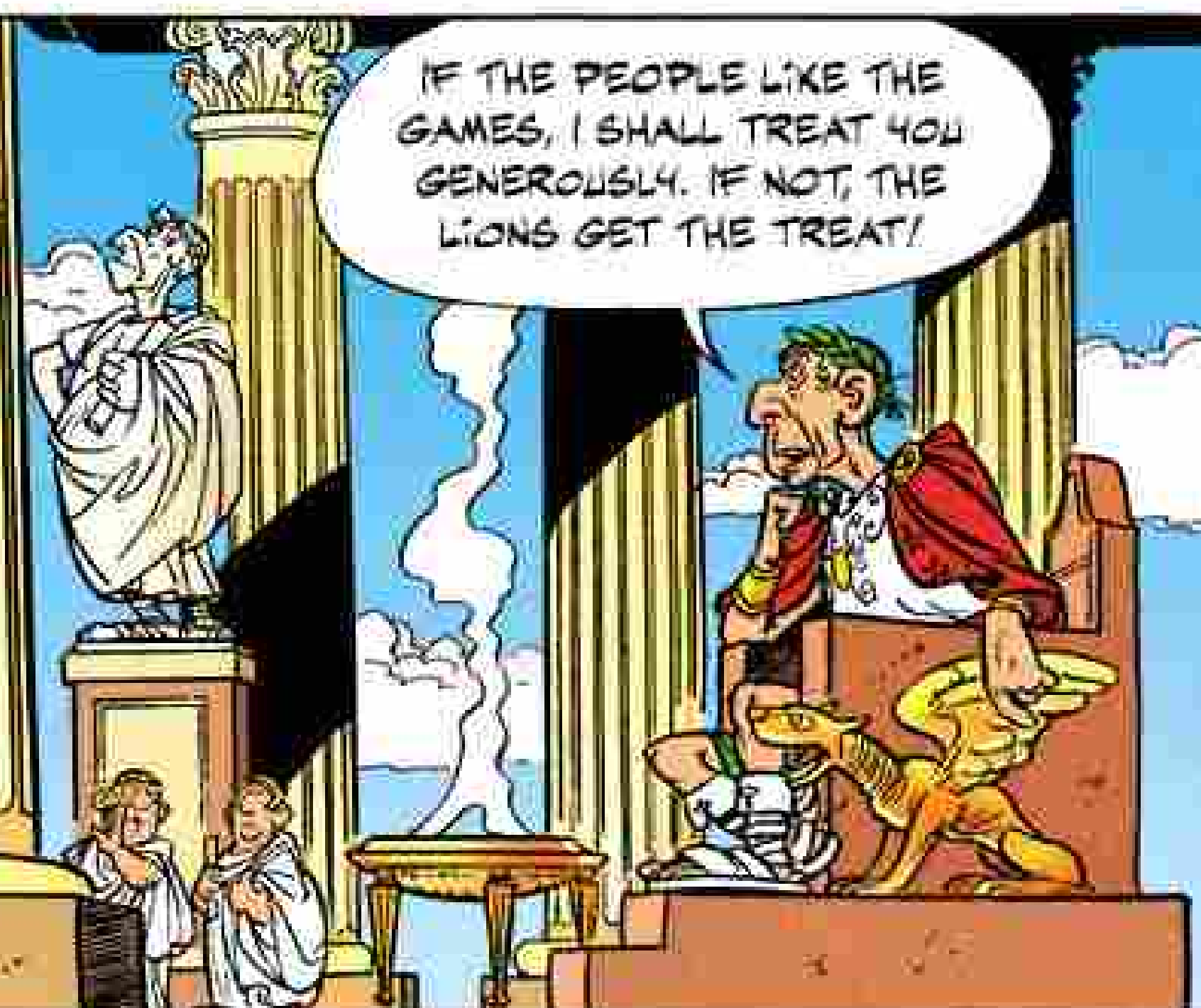


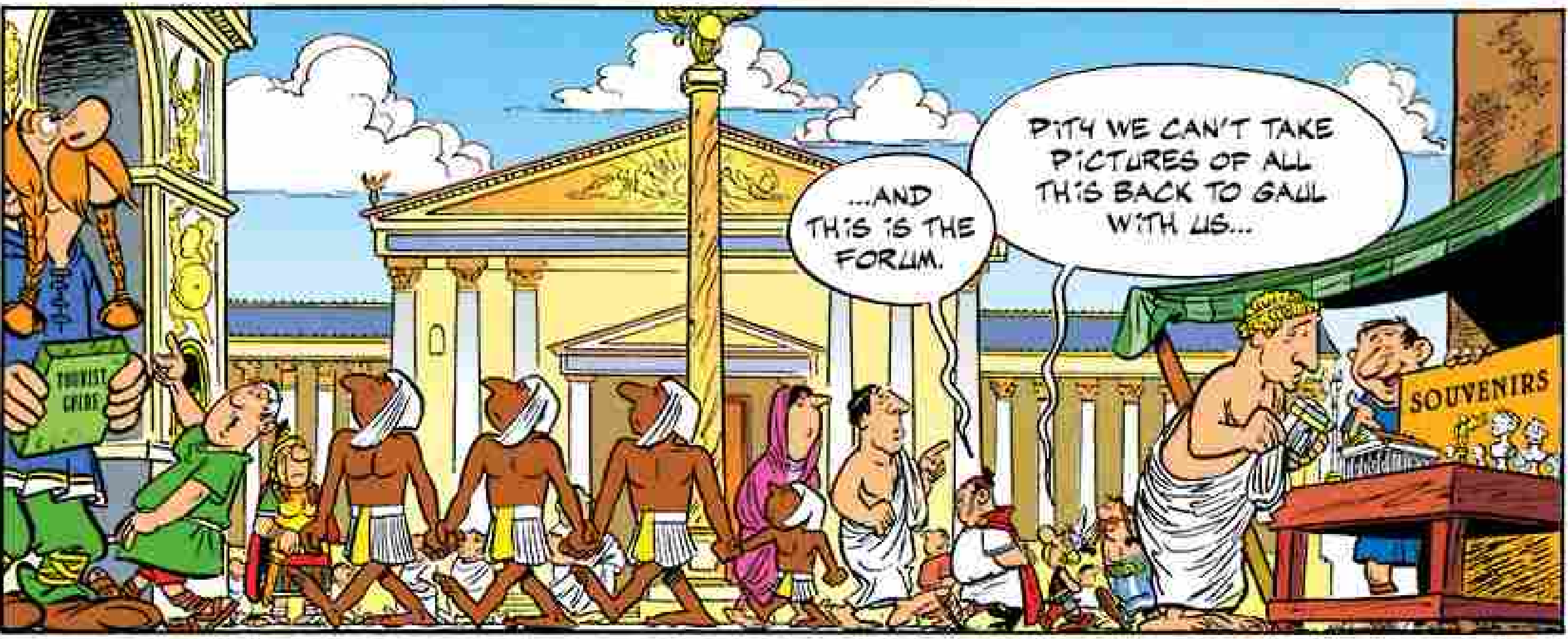
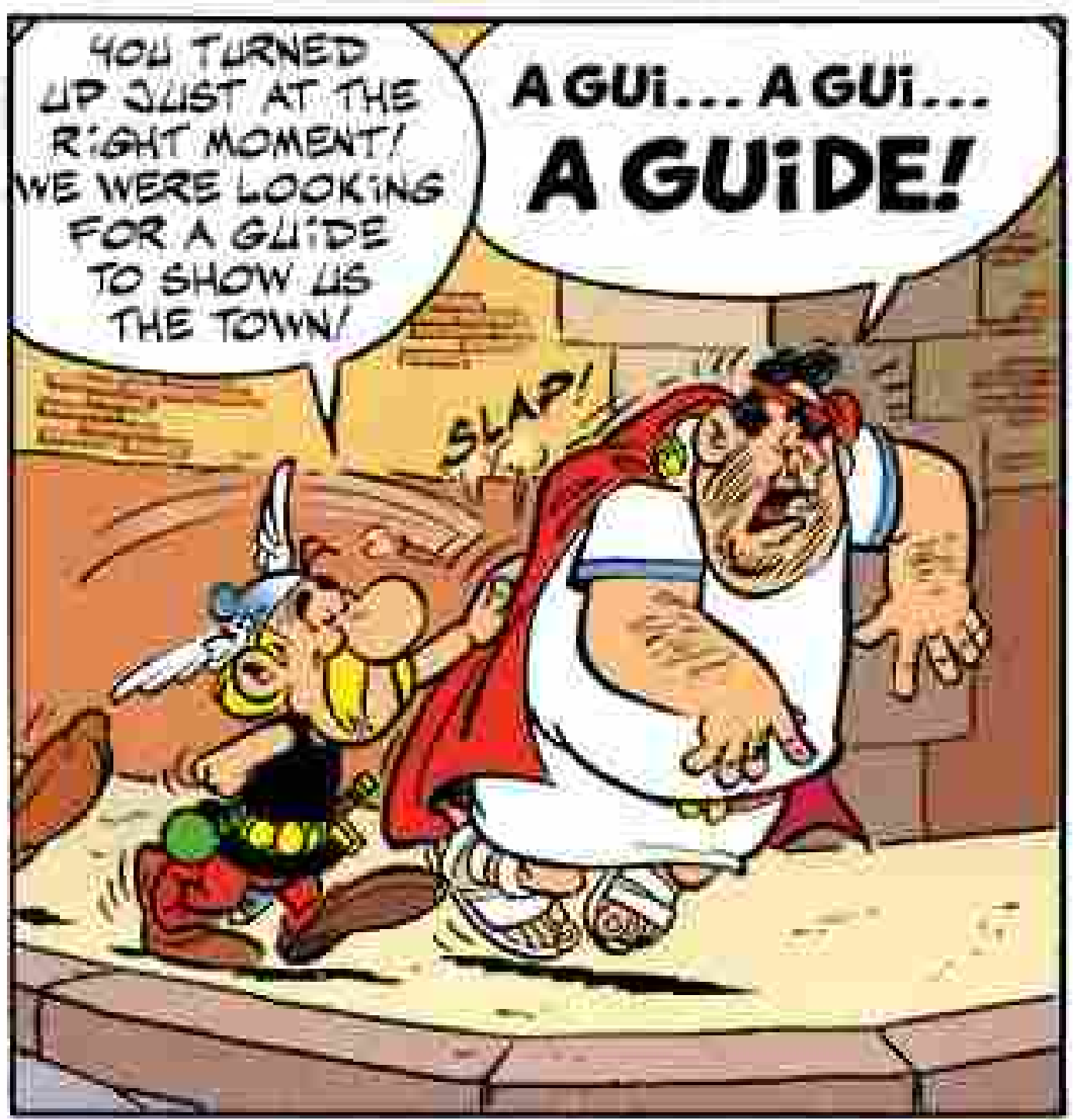


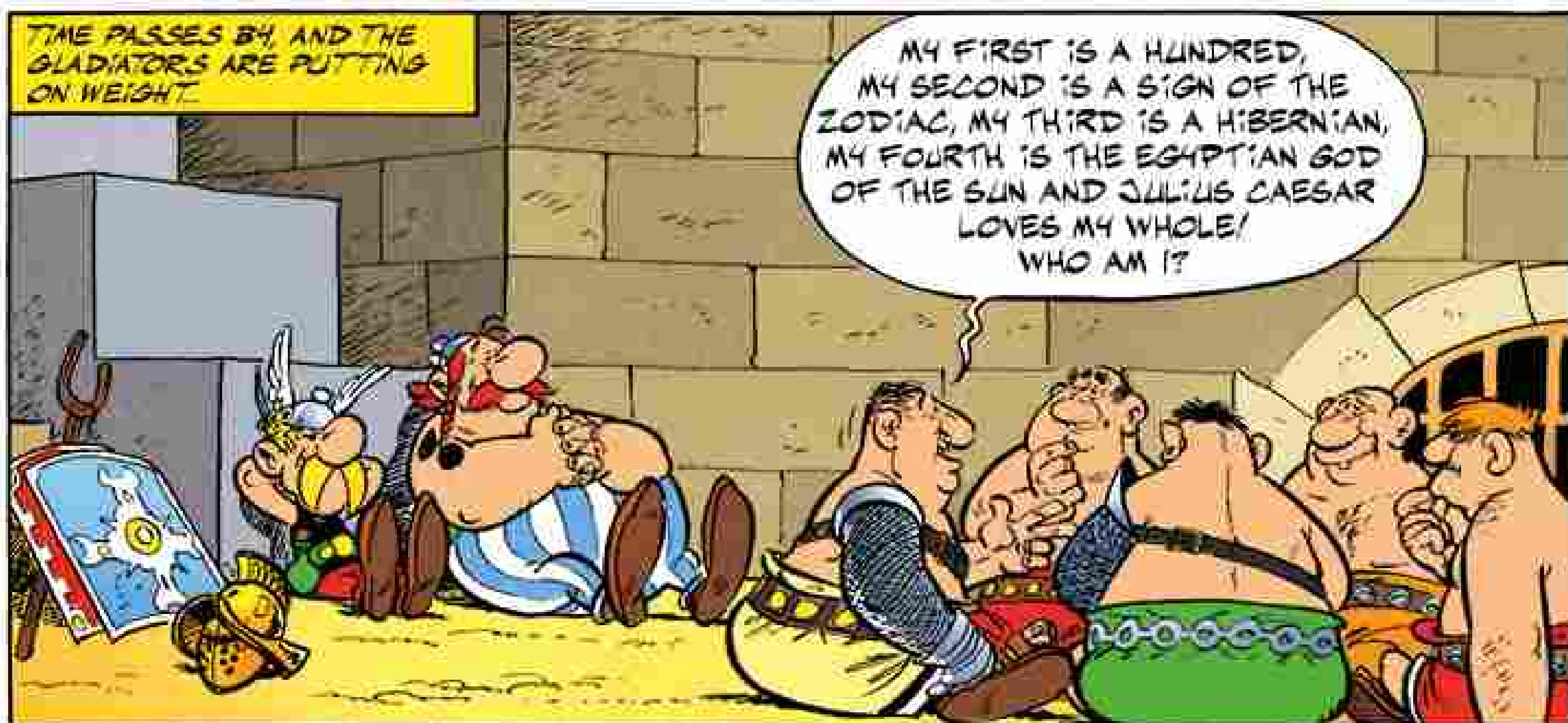




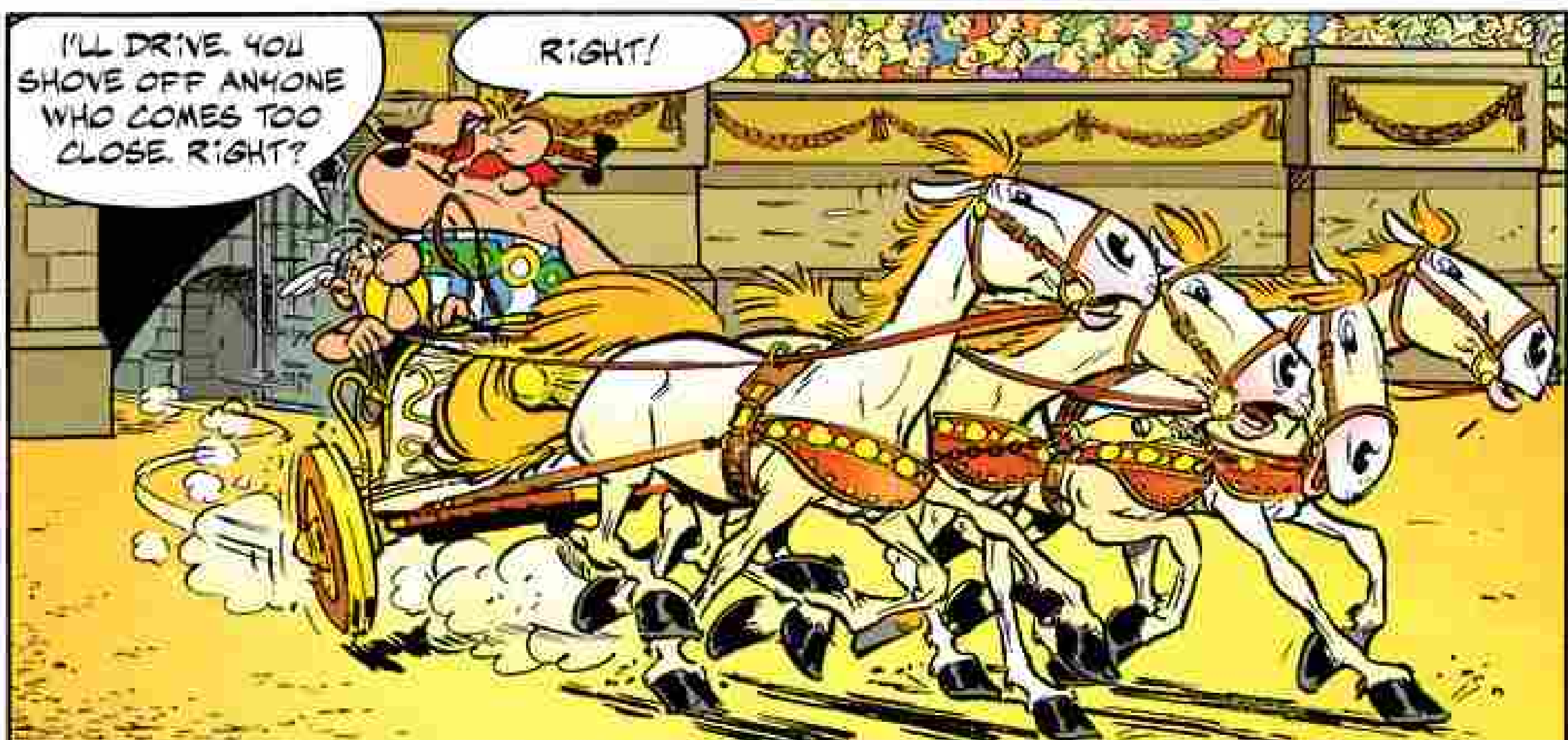






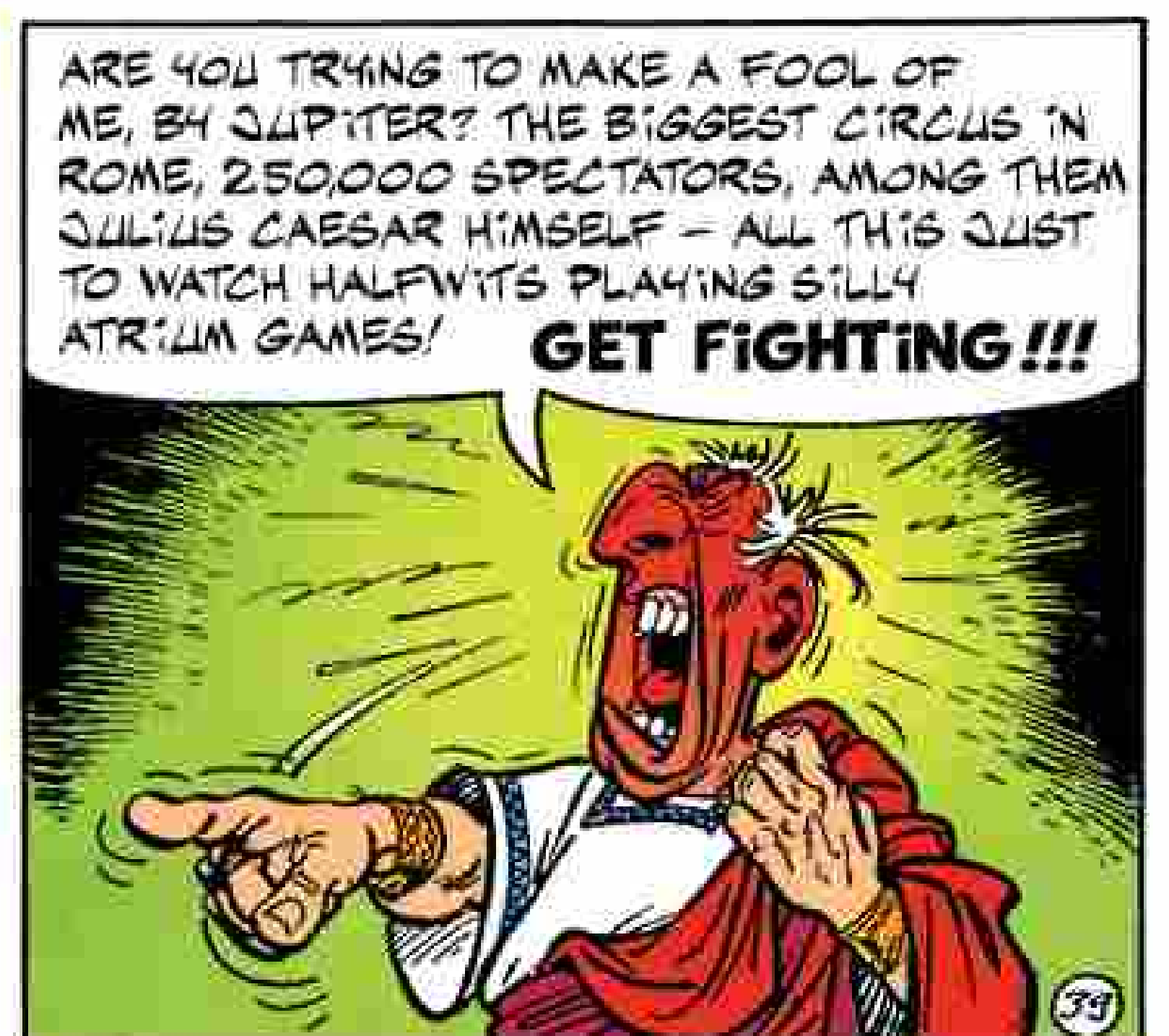


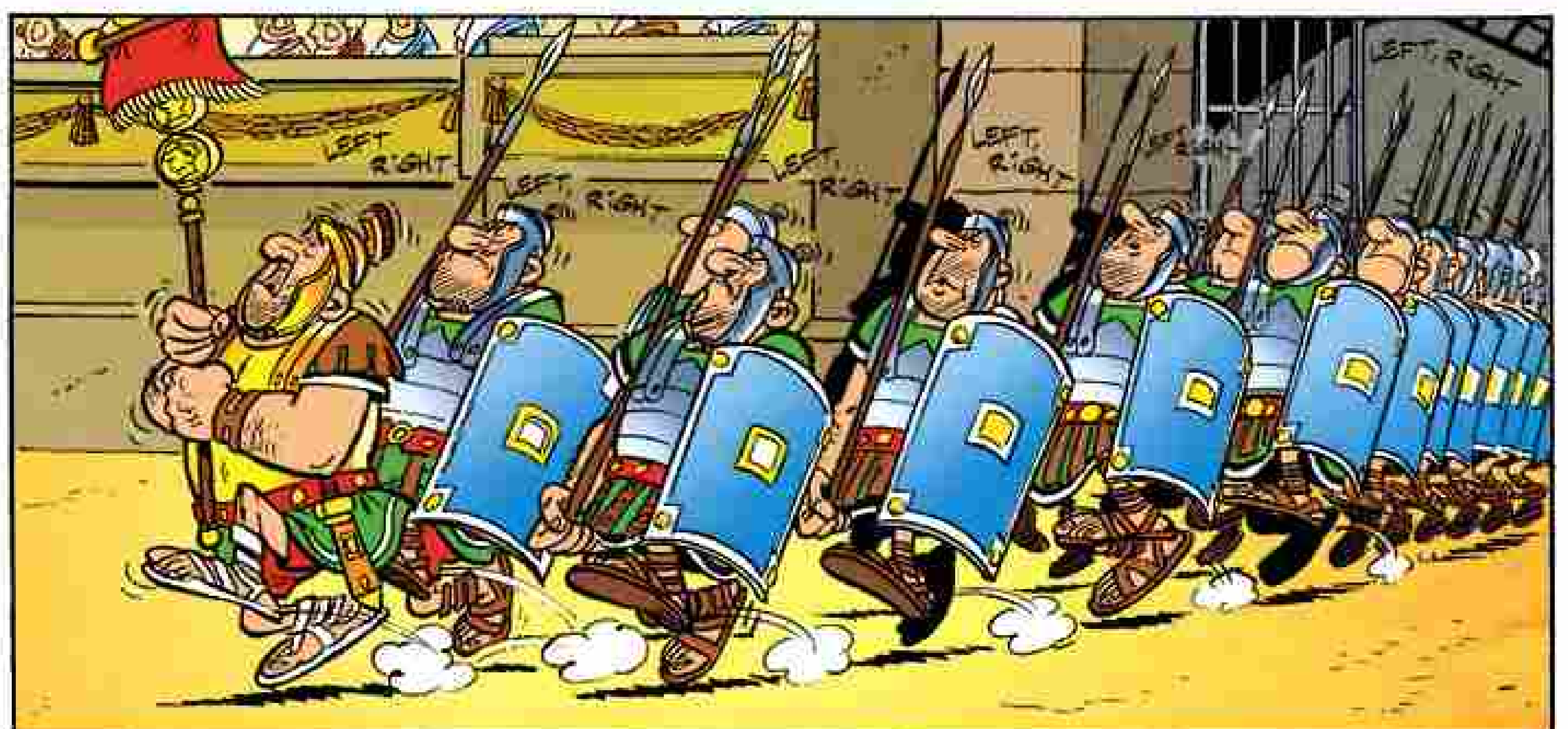


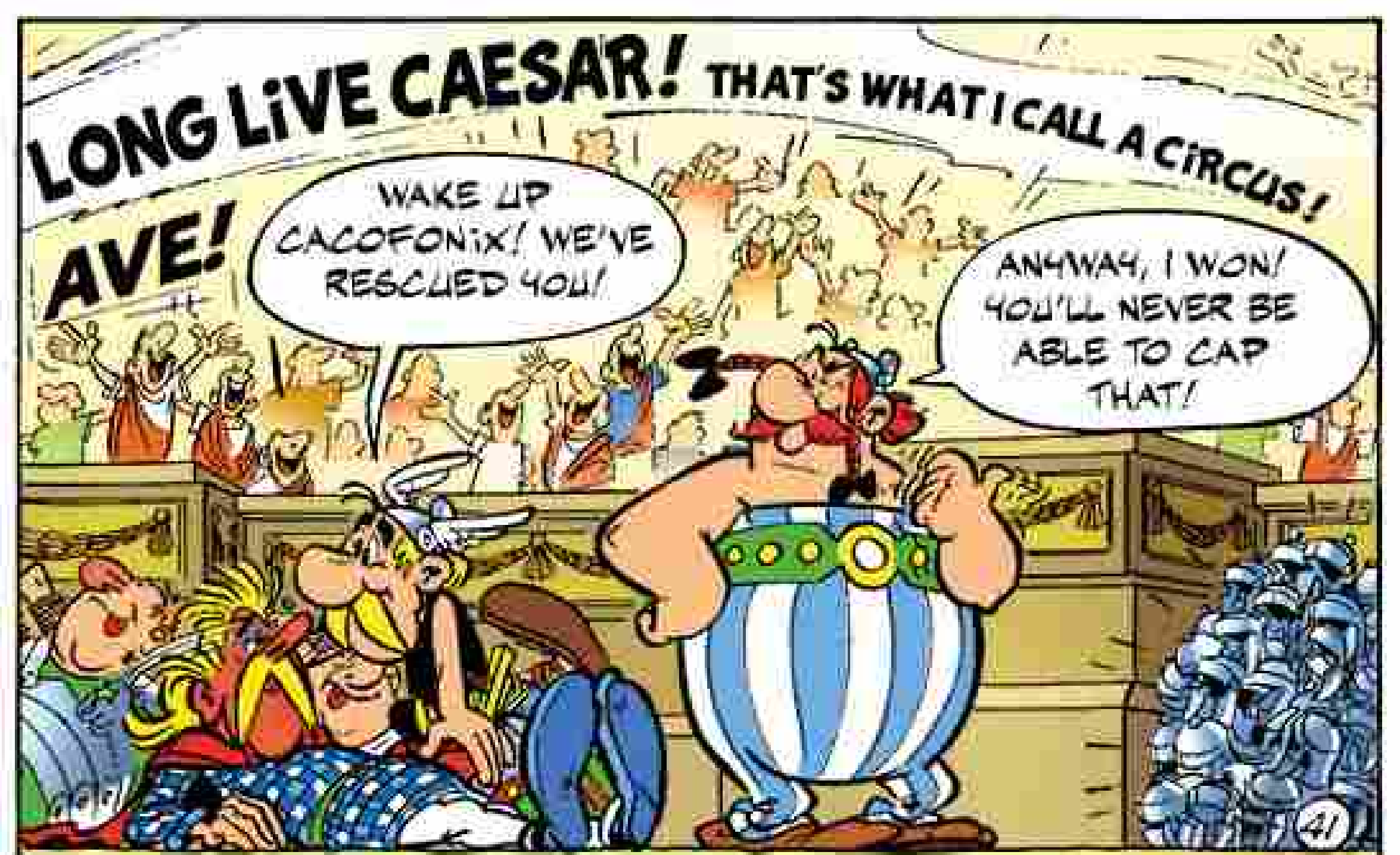
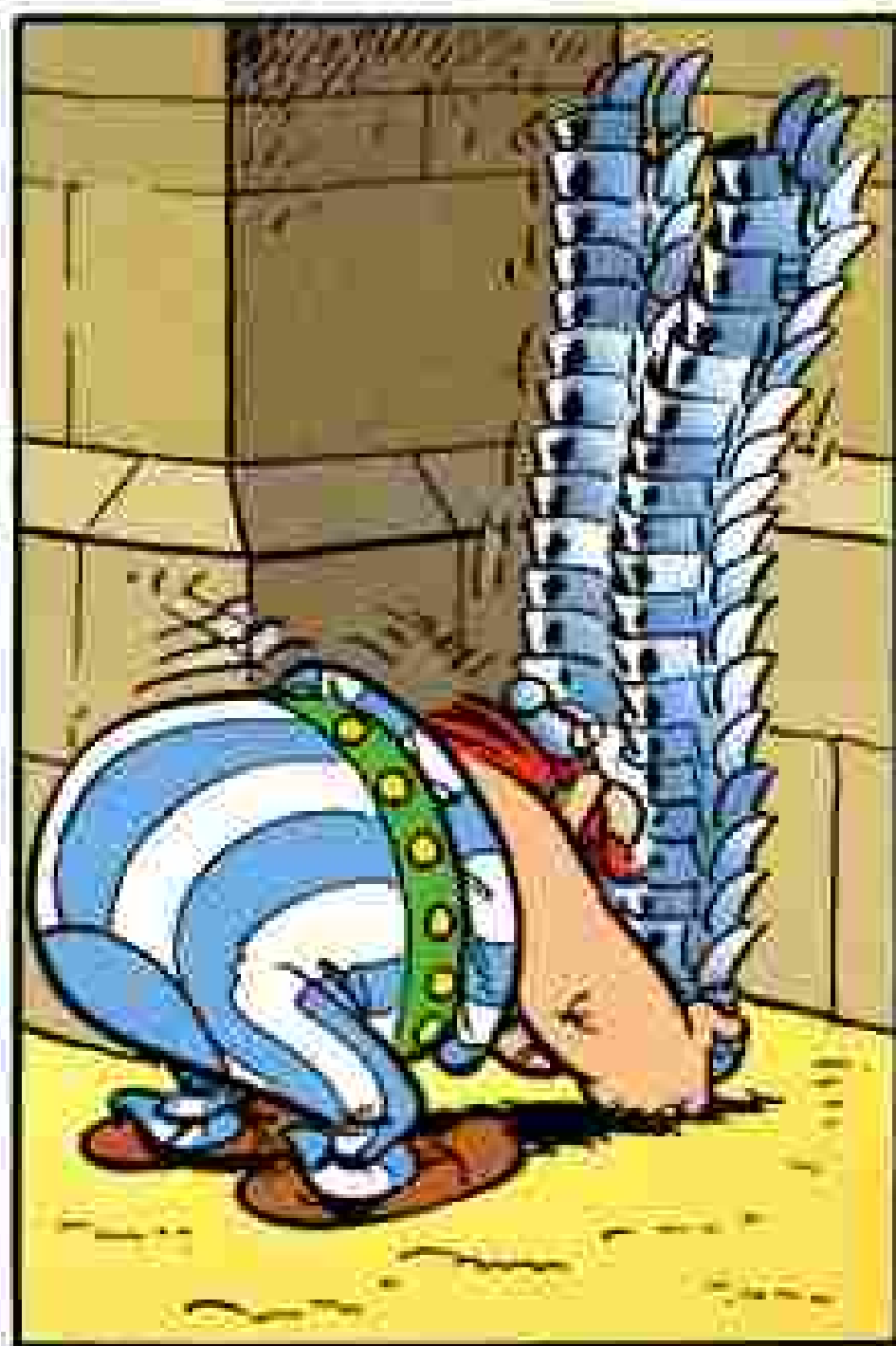




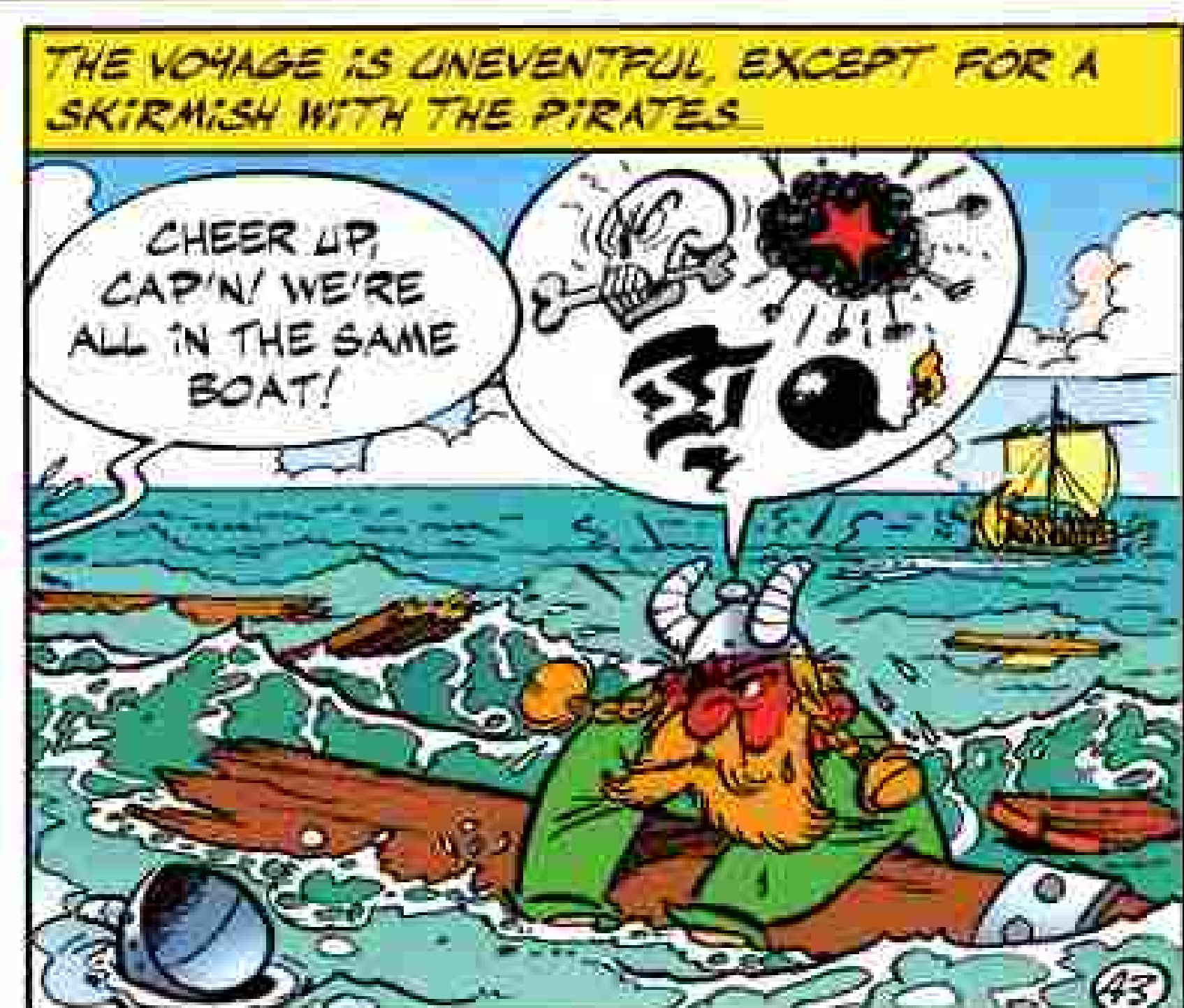
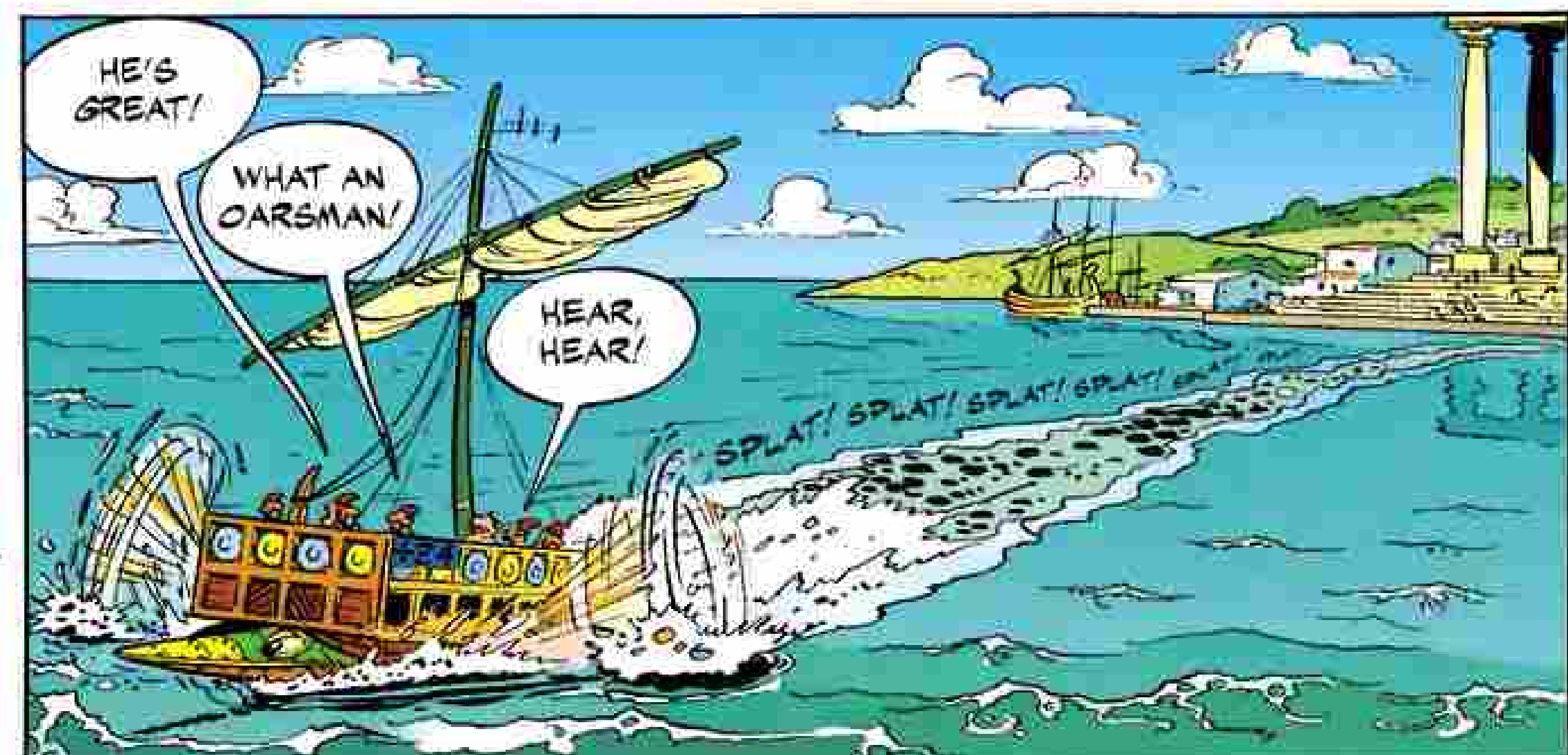


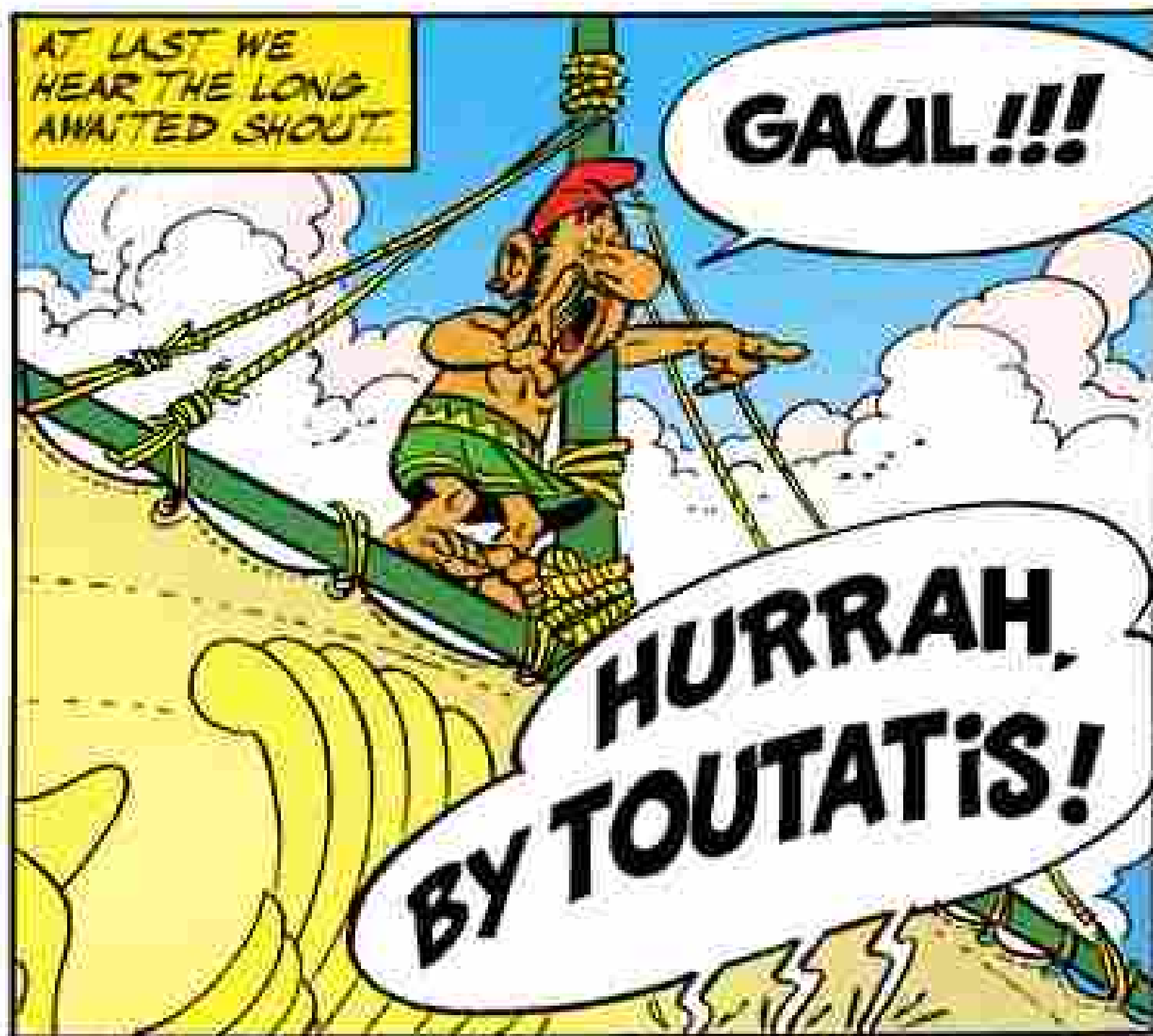
















I FEEL
A BIT WEAK,
GETAFIX ...

NO, OBELIX! YOU
ARE NOT HAVING ANY MAGIC
POTION! YOU KNOW VERY WELL
YOU FELL INTO THE CAULDRON
WHEN YOU WERE A BABY, AND
IT HAD A PERMANENT
EFFECT ON YOU!

When
Cacofonix
the bard is
taken to Rome as
a present for Julius
Caesar, Asterix and
Obelix set out to
rescue him, sailing
with master salesman
Ekonomikrisis, the
Phoenician merchant.
How do our Gaulish
friends come to end up
training as gladiators?
The next Games in the
Circus Maximus are not
quite what Caesar and the
Roman public expect . . .

